

The Shakerite

December 1, 2000 • Volume 71 • Issue 3 • Shaker Heights High School • 15911 Aldersyde Drive • Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120

take A PEEK

Stuck in the middle

6 Post-hit list, angry parent meetings and arrests, can life at SMS return to normal? How? **Opinion**

Censorship

8 Well, we would mention what is on page 8, but it has been censored. You must turn to page 8 to find out what is there, **Centerpiece**.

Stay fresh a little

10 longer Gum has been a fad for decades. Find out what the big thrill is in **Feature**.

Thumbs up?

12 Are Cursed, Gideon's Crossing and Normal, Ohio worth watching? Our opinion, **A & E**.

Let it snow -- on

14 our rivals! Winter athletes are looking forward to solid seasons, **Sports**.

flash BACK

Back in 1981, cast as Sir Evelyn Oakleigh in Shaker's production of *Anything Goes*, senior David Pogue's future was yet to be determined. He could not have told you that he would eventually become what many consider the authority on

Macintosh computers, and probably didn't plan on writing the best-seller *Macs for Dummies*.

Pogue's list of post-Shaker accomplishments does not end there. He also conducted and composed music for several Broadway and off-Broadway shows, and was inducted to the Shaker Heights High School Hall of Fame in 1999.



Jerry Hoesler

Students debate direction of charity funds

• Boy Scout ruling sparks talk over dispersion of United Way donations

By Jennifer Broadbent
News Co-editor

James Dale joined the Boy Scouts at age 8 and was a model scout for more than 10 years.

In high school he joined the select rank of Eagle Scout and while in college he was an assistant Scoutmaster. At Rutgers University he continued leadership activities in becoming the co-president of Rutgers University's Lesbian/Gay Alliance. In 1991, after a picture of him marching in a gay rights parade appeared in the local paper,

he was stripped of his scouting honors.

The Boy Scouts expelled Dale because they did not consider him "morally straight," one requirement of the Boy Scout oath.

Dale appealed to the courts, and eight years later the United States Supreme Court refused to reverse the lower court rulings, stating that the private group has the right to establish its own moral guidelines. The Boy Scouts' ban on homosexual members prompted protest rallies outside Boy Scout offices in 19

states, including Ohio.

It's that scout policy that has some Shaker students concerned about the district's fund-raising drive for United Way. Immediately after the ruling, United Way chapters throughout the country revoked their support of the Boy Scouts in protest of what they considered a discriminatory policy. The Cuyahoga County United Way chapter, however, has not.

At the request of Shaker's

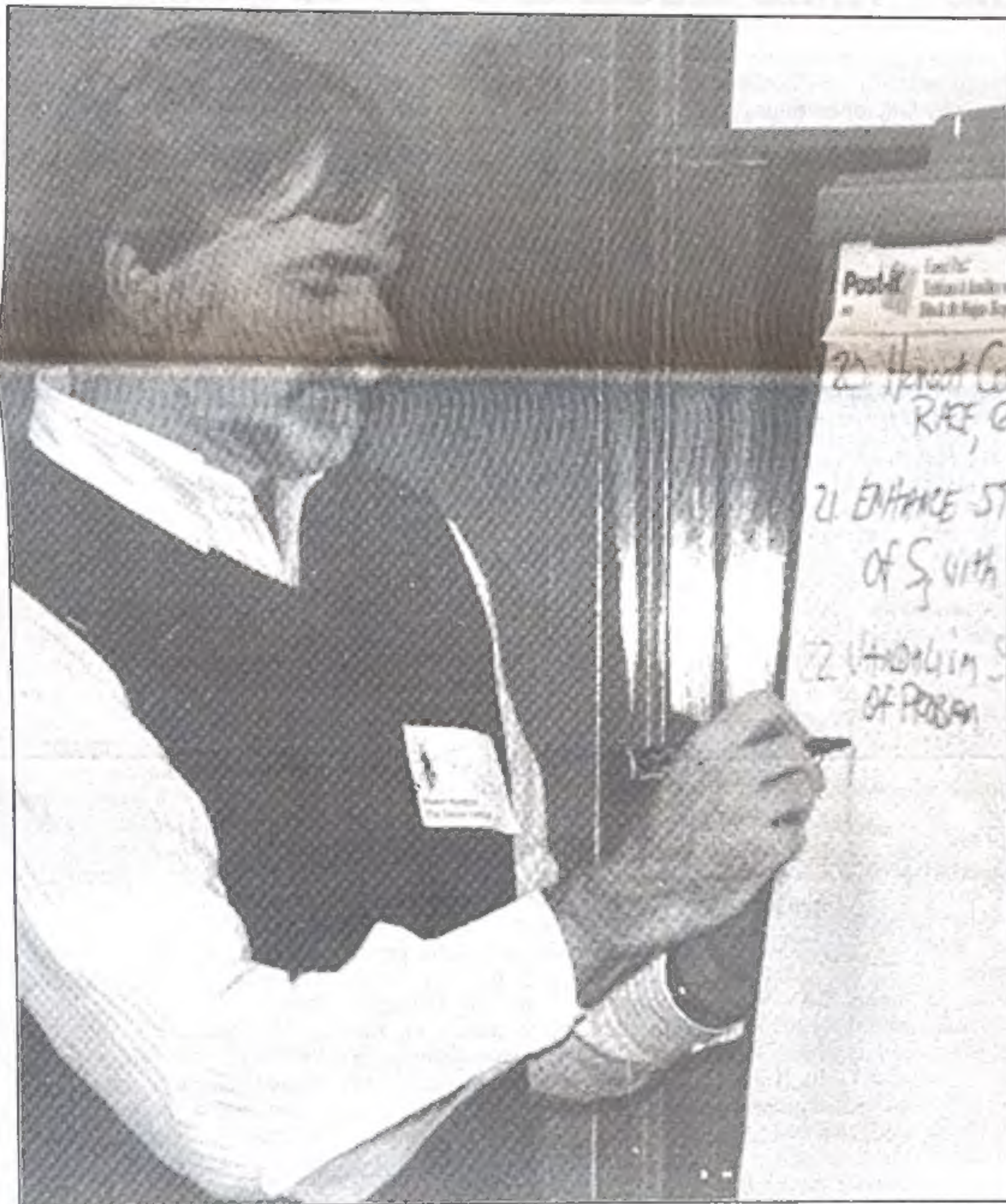
SEE SCOUTS, PAGE 2



Amin Thompson/The Shakerite

Despite a controversial ruling, the local United Way chapter funds these Scouts.

Trouble at SMS



Mary O'Connell/The Shakerite

Facilitator Tom Kelly takes down ideas at the Nov. 13 parent meeting at SMS, where parents met in small groups.

Parents search for solutions

By Jennifer Broadbent
News Co-editor

"I couldn't live without my brother."

This was the impossible possibility for senior Kareemah Lumpkin. Her younger brother Kevin's name recently appeared on a hit list circulating at Shaker Middle School.

"It was really scary, but nothing happened. I think the school needs to take responsibility and protect everyone,"

Lumpkin said.

On Nov. 3, middle school Assistant Principal Randy Yates found a group of students huddled with a list of 16 first names and the words "you will die." One student informed Yates that there was a second list. That list had 12 names with the words "be prepared for Monday cuz you people will have a rude awakening."

The notes proved idle, as did the threatening phone calls

placed to three students on the list. However, judging from the comments of angry parents at three meetings held to discuss the threats, the impact of the notes and calls was not minimized.

Parents, including Susan Coverdale, were furious that they were not informed of the threat until the weekend had passed. "I would not have sent [my son] Tyler to school on

SEE SMS, PAGE 3

PTO proposes high school phone book

• Poll shows student body supports idea

By Joseph Tartakoff
News Co-editor

What if a stalker was to find the address of his victim in a directory published by the Shaker City Schools? Or what if a marketer was to use a school directory to sell his products? In an ever-changing world, worries such as these have become genuine.

Nevertheless, attempting to facilitate communication among the student body, the high school Parent Teacher Organization is planning to create a high school directory for the 2000-2001 school year. The new direc-

"We're living in difficult times and stalking is a problem."

NANCY MOORE
PTO
Communications
Co-chair

tory would be similar to that of the middle school. Parents would have the option of listing their names, child's name, home address and phone number.

"Not only do many parents want their kids to be able to call classmates, but they would also like to keep better tabs on their children by calling other parents. Communication between parents is important," PTO Communications Co-chair Nancy Moore said.

After asking for feedback on the possibility of a high school directory in the fall issue of the *Oval*, a PTO newsletter, Moore received nearly 20 responses. The *Shakerite* recently conducted a telephone poll of 58 students and found that only 14 percent of the student body opposed the publication of a directory. The poll had a margin of error of 13 percent.

"The main worries are over privacy. Many parents do not

SEE DIRECTORY, PAGE 4

United Way's continued support of Boy Scouts questioned



Boy Scouts in Troop 15 watch as their leader Glen Morical shows them how to handle utensils for cooking over a campfire.

SCOUTS

FROM PAGE 1

Gay/Straight Alliance, Principal Michael Griffith has asked the local United Way if the high school can earmark its funds to exclude the Boy Scouts.

"There was one group they support that was called into question- the Boy Scouts," he said. "What we have to ask is, are we concerned enough to do something about it?"

"It's not like we don't want to give money to United Way, but it supports Boy Scouts which is a prejudice group. It would be the same as giving money to a group that funds an organization that is racist," said Alliance member Rebecca Hoover, a sophomore.

Boy Scout Nick Agich, a freshman, thinks that United Way should continue to support the Boy Scouts.

"I think the United Way is a good organization. They help a lot of people and that's what the Boy Scouts are about," he said.

Each local United Way chapter makes its own decisions about the organizations it will support, and the Cleveland branch still supports the Scouts. Decisions are made by a volunteer board after hearing proposals from the organizations request-

ing money.

"In our case we simply do fund the Boy Scouts. They come and make proposals every spring, just like all the other organizations," said Gail Steuhr, a marketing associate from Cleveland United Way.

In this year's campaign, which ran from Nov. 6 to Nov. 13, the high school raised \$1,724 for United Way. At press time, it is unclear if Student Council will vote on the issue of supporting the Boy Scouts.

"I'm opposed to the Boy Scouts banning gay scouts and leaders," said sophomore Grant Meacham, a Boy Scout. "But I believe that if the Boy Scouts have the right to ban homosexuals, then the United Way has the right to stop funding them."

"I believe the Boy Scouts are going about this in the wrong way," said sophomore Boy Scout Hans Rinderknecht. "They aren't differentiating between the uncontrollable condition of being gay and participating in homosexual activities."

The Boy Scouts are feeling the financial crunch. United Ways of Seattle, San Francisco, Rhode Island and others have stopped supporting Boy Scouts.

Recent tragedies raise questions on sports health

• Shaker athletes, parents take precautions to avoid future incidents

By Jeff Greenwald
Staff Reporter

It was a football play like any other for Cleveland Central Catholic linebacker Marcus Steele, one that he had gone through the motions of hundreds of times. Except after this one he never got up.

Steele made the initial hit on the fullback from Trinity High School during a game on Oct. 28 at Ripp Field, according to *The Plain Dealer*. He was shortly joined by a slew of defenders who quickly put the fullback into the ground. Steele ended up at the bottom of the pile by the time the play had ended.

As the group slowly cleared Steele stayed on the ground. When he did not appear to try to get up, trainers hurried out to the field and as with many injuries a hush fell over the crowd. When coaches began yelling to call 9-1-1 the crowd went silent. Steele was given cardiopulmonary resuscitation on the field, while every member of the stands looked on in anticipation.

A LifeFlight helicopter landed on the field to take Steele to a hospital, but he would not survive. The original report was that Steele had suffered a broken neck, but it was later determined that Steele had a heart condition called hypertrophic cardiomyopathy or known as an enlarged heart.

Two weeks later a second high school player was struck down by the disease. Josh Miller, a sophomore at Barberton High School, was congratulating teammates after a play when he suddenly collapsed. It was determined that Miller had the same condition as Steele.

Although the death of two athletes doesn't qualify as an epidemic, Shaker parents are concerned about the health of their student athletes, and the district's policies about it.

"If someone has a severe case [of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy] they will usually have some kind of heart murmur," said Paul Casale, a Pennsylvania cardiolo-

gist said in a phone interview. A doctor should be able to pick up any kind of murmur in the heart during a regular physical. However, the disease will often show no symptoms or not even cause a murmur.

"I think every parent is concerned," said Wanda Whitmore, the mother of football player and wrestler Brandon Proctor. Whitmore contacted her son's pediatrician after she heard about the deaths of the two athletes. She asked if there was anything that she could do, but the doctor said that the condition and things like it are rare.

However, Whitmore still believes that the physicals should be more involved. "The kind of tests can be expensive, but who cares," Whitmore said. She said she understood the cost of the tests some diseases require, but that if anything was common it should be tested for.

In both cases the boys were not known to have any ailments, however the disease was not picked up during the regular physicals required by the Ohio High School Athletic Association. The physical cards required by the OHSAA in order to participate in a high school sport are brief and require only a short medical history, accompanied by the athlete's height, weight, blood pressure and pulse.

"I saw it as a freak accident and it just happened to occur twice in the same area," said senior Jameson Evans, who is on the varsity football team.

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy is a very rare condition that is generally inherited, but only occurs in about one of 10,000 people. The disease causes the walls of the heart to thicken, which narrows the flow of blood, Casale said. During vigorous activity the short flow of blood can often cause heart attacks. The disease has been called one of

the most common killers of athletes in America, Casale said. This is what occurred in Steele's case and was involved in the deaths of such star athletes as former Boston Celtic Reggie Lewis and former college basketball player Hank Gathers.

"If there are symptoms they are only simple things such as shortness of breath and small chest pains as with any murmur," Casale said. "These students would probably not have died from running in the hall. The extra strain that sports places on the heart makes them many times more at risk than they would be," said Casale.

"If a parent is concerned about a child it is their responsibility," said varsity football coach Dave Sedmak.

Sedmak brings in Cleveland Clinic sports medicine doctors, the same ones who treat the professional athletes in Cleveland, to do a much more extensive check for only \$10 in the fall. The doctors come to the school in August and the physicals are open to any athlete. If the doctors find any abnormality, especially of the heart, they will send the athlete to a specialist before clearing them to play said Sedmak, who is also an athletic director for the school.

During the game against Glenville, Whitmore said that she had seen a player taken off on a stretcher during warm-ups. Although it was only because of dehydration when Proctor later went down, Whitmore felt a little worried,

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy

more
INFO

Symptoms: Shortness of breath and chest pains.

Detection: A stress test is given by physician to search for a heart murmur or any other irregularities.

Precautions: Talking to your physician. They will often perform basic tests and if a problem is found, they will prescribe more treatment and tests.

Treatment: Medicine to relax the heart muscles.

club NOTES

Club Notes appear monthly. Submit your club's information to *The Shakerite* via Natalie Sekicky's mailbox. Deadline for December listings is Dec. 14.

Modern Dance Club

Pamela Corbin, adviser
information

The Modern Dance Club will present its Annual Holiday concert in Dance on Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m. This event is free of charge. Come one, come all and enjoy a special evening of dance.

The Modern Dance Club meets Monday through Friday in the High School Dance room from 3:30 to 6 p.m.

SGORR Extended

Marcia Jaffe, adviser
information

Student Group on Race Relations Extended is a high school oriented discussion group facilitated by SGORR members. For more information see Marcia Jaffe in the SGORR office or call Robbie Markt at 921-1506.

SGORR extended will meet in the cafeteria on Tuesday, Nov. 21; Wednesday, Dec. 13; Wednesday Jan. 17; Tuesday, Feb. 13; Wednesday, March 21; and Wednesday April 25. All of these meetings will take place from 3:15 to 4 p.m.

Semanteme

Beth Illes-Johnson, adviser
information

SUBMIT! Your poetry and prose to SEMANTEME. Please put your name on it and type it. Then, put it in Beth Illes-Johnson's mailbox. The deadline for the contest is Jan. 13. (Come on, you wanna win cool stuff!)

Gay-Straight Alliance

C.J. Bott, Cindy Finch, advisers
information

Today is World AIDS Day, and the Gay-Straight Alliance is distributing more than 1,700 lollipops to students in an effort to increase awareness about HIV. During their last three meetings, GSA members attached fact cards to each lollipop in preparation for the big day.

At their November meeting, GSA members discussed the United Way Drive and presented their concerns to Principal Mike Griffith. GSA members asked whether or not SHHS could specify that its United Way donations not go to the Boy Scouts of America.

Interested in helping with second-semester activities? Come to a meeting soon! The next meeting is Dec. 5 at 2:15 p.m. All meetings are in room 132. Questions? See Paul Repasy or Cathy Lawlor.

Latin Club

Jane Ulrich, adviser
information

We meet every Wednesday in room 308. Nov. 30 is the final date to pay dues to Mrs. Ulrich or one of the officers. Make Grapevine submissions to Dave Simmons-Duffin or Ed Comany.

French Club

Lynn Shima, adviser
information

All students taking French this year can join French club. It's not too late! Everyone be sure to pay your \$2 dues and get your picture in the yearbook. Come join us and watch some good French films with English subtitles!

Speech and Debate

Robert White, adviser
information

The Debate team meets in room 220. The debate season began on Saturday, Nov. 11. At the meet on Saturday, Nov. 18, the two-person team of Julie Redline and Meredith Jones received 8th place in policy debate. Students also competed in four man policy debate and speech events.

Middle school hit list concerns many parents and administrators

SMS
FROM PAGE 1

Monday if I had known [about the list]."

Other parents focused on why this incident happened at the middle school. Middle school parent Keith Langford thinks the problem comes from the school's leadership. "It's a rough age already and kids are trying to figure out who they are, but at the same time you have an administration that's not willing to make changes and try to control this situation."

Seventh grade mother, Joan Bogucki, said, "I feel that Dr. [Neil] Glazer is talking down to the students and not recognizing the unique pool of talent here."

Lori Fenderson Well's seventh grade son, Matthew, was beat up by a group of eighth graders in November. "These children are crying out for a more hands-on principal," she said. "We entrust our children's lives to him [Glazer] everyday. This is his school, ultimately."

With the recent rash of school shootings around the country and the media attention directed toward them, parents, students and administrators are more on edge about threats of school violence.

Freeman said the 1998 murder of Penny Chang was a defining moment for Shaker students. "The youngsters of today have been profoundly affected, as have their parents," he said.

Adding to the difficulty, "Adolescents have one foot in childhood, one foot in adulthood, and one foot on a banana peel," he said, explaining that middle school is a very frustrating time for students. Junior Lauren Williams said problems at the middle school have little to do with the leadership, but are based on immaturity.

"People in the middle school are very immature and like to joke around. I remember back in the day people used to write your name on the bathroom door and all that stuff. But, it didn't mean anything," she said.

Some parents think that their peers should shoulder the responsibility for their children.

"As parents we have to be responsible for our children's education. We need to quit pointing fingers and start checking our own houses," said Pamela Bell, parent of a middle school student.

In response to the threatening note, parents such as Langford, who recently moved to Shaker, have considered taking their children out of Shaker schools.

"I came here with blind faith about safety. I have to reassess what is it I think that can be done now. At this point in time I don't necessarily have an answer," he said.

The middle school has hired a retired Shaker



Lauren Williams

"I remember back in the day people used to write your name on the bathroom door and all that stuff. But, it didn't mean anything"

LAUREN WILLIAMS
Junior



Camelia Sutorius

"Why not post the harassment policy in classrooms, [at the middle school] like at the high school?"

CAMELIA SUTORIUS
Middle School Parent

policeman to assess the school's need for security. Mike Gayle will give recommendations for new security measures after observing for two or three months.

Parents and administrators suggestions ranged from conflict mediation programs to installing security cameras.

"I would like to see something in the building to deal with peer pressure and self-esteem," said Angela Harrell, an eighth grade math teacher.

She said she teaches many of the students on the list and most were popular African-American females. Harrell thinks that the list was written by a girl ostracized from the popular group. If a program dealing with peer-pressure had been instated, she believes that the list might not have been written.

"I hope I'll see more conflict resolution practices like at the K-4 buildings. Kids need a script of what to say when harassed," said Camelia Sutorius, middle school parent. "Why not post the harassment policy in classrooms, like at the high school?"

Freeman said that the result of improving middle school security will lead to a better school system overall. "We have faced many challenges as a community. We will be successful because we have a lot of talented and committed residents who refuse to accept anything less than excellence," he said.

The security at the Middle School has undergone a few minor changes. Students may only enter through one entrance, and are no longer permitted to gather in the auditorium before the first bell.

Lumpkin summed up most student's feelings when she said, "All in all I'm just glad it is over."

Contributed to by Debra Kamin, Dave Chupek, Meredith Edwards and Will Wemer

False alarms disrupt learning

•Four fire alarms interrupt classroom work

By Will Wemer
Staff Reporter

Do you know Jimmy?

He's the guy who prays to every known god to get out of that doggone algebra test. The guy who rejoices when the fire alarm erupts just as he skips the fourth consecutive puzzling question. The dude who makes the most of the evacuation by talking to every brainiac in the class and snatching answers while the fire trucks barrel down Aldersyde, narrowly missing a few street-dumb students.

Heck, maybe you are Jimmy.

Already this year, Shaker has had four false alarm fire evacuations, two after school and two during morning classes, with the most recent on Nov. 9.

Because the false alarms are treated like actual fires, the Shaker Heights Fire Department is dispatched and must ensure that the building is safe before people reenter.

The most recent false alarm lasted almost 10 minutes.

The false alarms are a minor annoyance to most people, but students taking tests feel the most impact from the evacuations. Freshman Jessie Loeb was taking a math test during the Nov. 9 false alarm and thus, had less time to answer all the questions.

"We were cut off," Loeb said. "I didn't do as well on the test."

Sophomore Emily Pfaff had just begun a Modern European History test when the fire alarm sent her class outside.

"We lost 15 minutes," Pfaff said. "But everybody finished anyway."

Social Studies teacher Tim Mitchell was administering a U.S. History essay test, an exam that takes all period. As a result of the false alarm, he had to give ten extra minutes the next day. Al-

though it may seem like an advantage, Mitchell saw it more as a disadvantage.

"They needed the full 50 minutes," Mitchell said. "They lost their stream of thought."

Junior Tony Senagore was not affected by the false alarm. However, he was glad to see the quick response by the fire department.

"It wasn't that much of a disruption to me," Senagore said. "It's good to know that the fire department responds so well."

Deputy Fire Chief Donald Barnes said that the fire department never knows beforehand what has happened at the school before responding to the call.

"We treat each alarm as a real alarm," Barnes said.

Barnes also said pulling a fire alarm is a misdemeanor in Ohio and that perpetrators could be prosecuted.

French teacher Ruth Berger believes that pulling the alarm is not just

a misdemeanor, it is an act of thoughtlessness.

"People are being inconsiderate of others," Berger said. "It's much more serious than people realize."

One false alarm was caused by an out-of-control basketball hitting one of the fire alarm handles in the North Gym, setting it off.

Physical education teacher Linda Betley is concerned about the alarms, especially in the new gym.

"The reason it was hit was because [the alarms] don't have covers," Betley said. "They need covers."

Though frequent, these false alarms do not exact a financial cost from the school. However, a false alarm makes some of the fire department's resources unusable in the case of a real emergency.

"While we are responding, anything can happen," Barnes said.



Mary O'Connell

Club approval under fire

By Chris Martin
Staff Reporter

When controversial clubs come in front of the student body criticism can be fierce. So it was no wonder that Students 4 God, a Shaker student group that meets regularly to discuss religion, did not appear at a Student Council meeting on Nov. 21.

They were called before the student group because they had not followed the correct procedure while applying to become a club in 1999.

Founding a club entails several steps. According to Griffith, the first step is to come to the principal with an idea for a club. Then, a written proposal including a name of a faculty adviser, and 10-15 signatures of potential members must be presented to the principal. After seeing the proposal the principal may amend it, and then passes it along to Student Council.

Article IX Section 5 of the Student Council Constitution lays out the guidelines that Student Council then follows in approving a club. It states that within six weeks of receiving the proposal Student Council must vote to either approve or reject the club. Students 4 God did not undergo this vote by Student Council when it was formed.

On Nov. 7, Principal Michael Griffith addressed Student Council and expressed his wish for an understanding between the council and Students 4 God. Griffith said that it is not correct to take away a club's right to meet at school.

"The difficulty is that now that it has existed and has been around for a time, you can't take away what has already been given," he said.

Senior, Matt Bartley agreed "I think anyone should be able to start a club."

Co-President of Students 4 God, senior Jessica Blake said that Jerry Mitchell, the interim principal last year, gave the club an OK, but did not mention a need to go through Student Council. Curtis Penick, co-president of Students 4 God, was not aware of Student Council's right to reject a club. He said that he does not think Student Council should be allowed to approve or reject a club "I don't think they should have any say," Penick said. Freshman John Mulligan disagreed.

He said Student Council should be able to reject clubs, "because they can help weed out the negative clubs."

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① Bush wins majority of votes

• Los Angeles- A poll of more than 600,000 young adults by Los Angeles based Scholastic Inc. gave George W. Bush 54% of the vote. Al Gore received 41%. Bush carried every grade and the vast majority of states. Students who voted for Gore cited his experience while those who voted for Bush cited his honesty. (Sun Press)

② 16-year-old freed by analyst

• Barker, NY- A 16-year-old accused of passing a note about pipe bombs spent three weeks in a jail in upstate New York. She was freed on bail that was posted by a stock analyst she did not know. The analyst, Christian Curry, believed that the girl had been treated unfairly. She will appear in court on Nov. 30. (New York Times)



③ Bus safety changes urged

• Washington, DC- A government safety panel recommended security changes for school buses across the nation on Nov. 14. The National Transportation Safety Board recommended that bus seat cushions and emergency exits be redesigned. The ruling came after a schoolbus accident in upstate New York killed 51 students in 1999. (New York Times)

④ New tobacco laws in Ohio

• Columbus, OH- The Ohio House of Representatives passed a law which fines minors caught buying, smoking or just possessing tobacco products \$100. The Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Council of Retail Merchants support the measure although three anti-smoking groups opposed it saying that the measure did not go far enough in combatting youth smoking. (Plain Dealer)

Compiled by Joseph Tartakoff

Possibility of telephone directory up in the air

DIRECTORY FROM PAGE 1

for a variety of reasons. People are always afraid when phone numbers are available in bulk. We're living in difficult times and stalking is a problem," Moore said.

Principal Michael Griffith is also concerned with possible breaches of privacy.

"There are always concerns about privacy rights that need to be safeguarded. Having a directory will give access to all of the student body," he said.

But Donna Jackson, a parent involved in proposing a Shaker directory, said that students would always maintain the right to keep their names, phone numbers and addresses out of the directory.

"No matter what we do, if we decide to go ahead with this people will be given an opportunity to omit their names from the

"It would be really nice to have a directory. The middle school one doesn't cover the names of all the new people who come to the high school every year."

MEG ROBENALT
sophomore

directory if they wish to do so," she said.

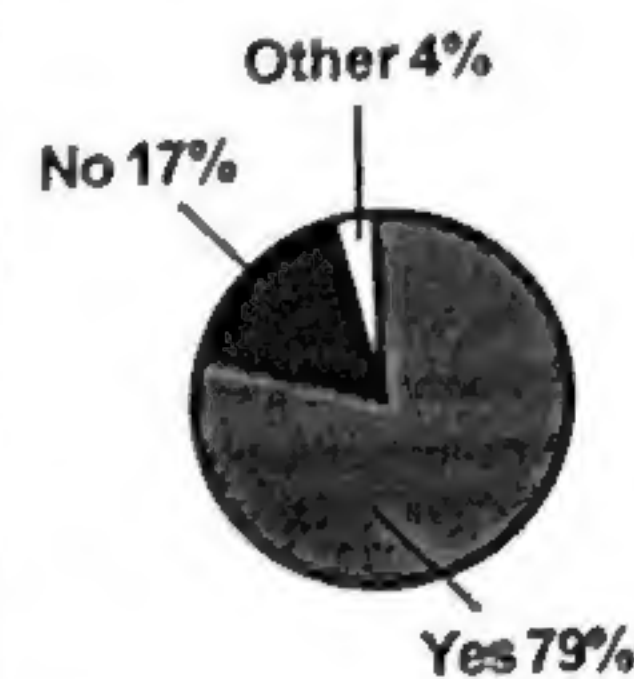
Jackson also said that the majority of inner and outer ring suburbs publish student directories at the high school level.

"The Orange school district even has a district-wide directory," she said.

Moore said that in the past Shaker administrators have cited differences in "mobility" to explain why the high school is the only Shaker school not to have a directory.

Griffith agrees stating that one

student VOICE



Would you be in favor of the Shaker Heights City Schools producing a directory for the high school which would include names, addresses, and phone numbers of students?

scientific poll of 60 students with a margin of error of 13 +/- percent

The Journalism I classes telephoned students.

of the problems with high school directories is that they become quickly outdated after publication.

But sophomore Meg Robenalt sees another side of the issue.

"It would be really nice to have a directory. The middle school one doesn't cover the names of all the new people who come to the high school every year," she said.

And Jackson, a parent of two high school students, agrees.

"I would love to have one and the PTO thinks that it would be a great idea because we have such a good track record with directories at the other Shaker schools," she said.

But Jackson reminds students that a directory is still in the planning stage.

"There is no consensus. We're still talking about the possibilities," Jackson said.

Shaker Habitat for Humanity chapter draws a crowd

By Matt Seldner
Staff Reporter

The snarl of saws and clanging hammers resound in an open lot. Students are building houses for the poor. Are these students getting paid?

Nope, this is an organization that exists only for the benefit of the poor. All of this work is for the simple satisfaction of knowing that you helped someone.

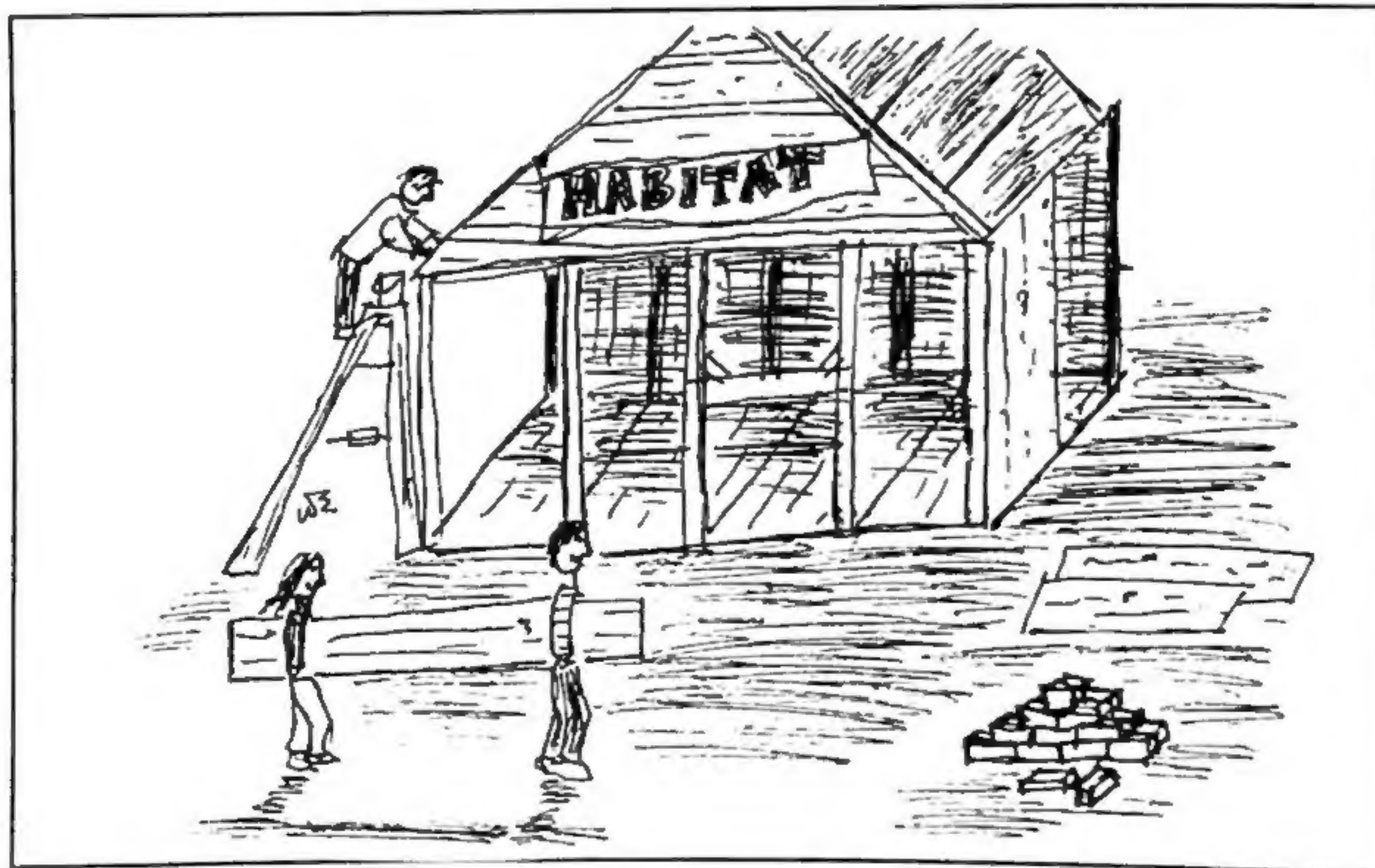
Shaker Heights High School now has its own Habitat for Humanity campus chapter.

"A number of the kids involved were students of mine and they asked me to sort of get the club off the ground," said Walt Slovickovski, math teacher and sponsor of Habitat.

Slovickovski went on to say that it's good to be able to get people from an age group that society doesn't have a lot of faith in to do some community service. The Habitat campus chapter at the high school aims to involve the whole community, not just the high school.

Gabe Scherzer and Dave Rupp founded the Habitat club this year. More than 120 people signed up at the first meeting on Thursday, Oct. 26.

"I think it's a generalization that people do not have a lot of



faith in teenagers," Rupp said.

Scherzer said that she wants to prove people wrong who don't have faith in teenagers.

"It feels great. I'm glad to know that people are interested in this sort of thing," said Rupp, a junior.

Habitat for Humanity was formed in 1976 by Linda and Millard Fuller. Their goal was to eliminate poverty housing and

improve living conditions for the impoverished.

They planned to accomplish this by building affordable housing for the poor, and doing maintenance work on already standing property.

A campus chapter is a student-run organization that is in league with Habitat. They raise funds, build affordable housing for poor people, and do maintenance

work on homes that are already in the area.

"I'm so excited because it's such a good cause," said Scherzer, a junior and co-founder of the Habitat campus chapter.

The Shaker chapter will work through the headquarters in Cleveland, which builds seven to 10 houses per year. Homes will be built throughout the greater Cleveland area.

Students will get community service hours for participating in Habitat. A typical workday would be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Typically, students won't work the whole seven hour stretch but will cover the hours in shifts instead.

"I had done it before and it was a lot of fun. I thought I should get other people informed," Scherzer said. She had her first experience with Habitat through her temple two years ago.

This Habitat campus chapter was made a club so that it wouldn't die out after the founders graduated.

The second Habitat meeting was held on Thursday, Nov. 9 in the small auditorium. The people who showed up for the meeting worked as a team to find ways to raise funds.

Habitat provides building materials, but each chapter must raise funds to buy its own equipment.

"I like to give to the community," Nafateria Waller, an attendee at the second meeting said.

"If Habitat for Humanity works out as planned we won't have to prove anything. Our actions will speak for themselves," Rupp said.

The Shakerite

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'rite ARTIST MYSTERIES of SHAKER HEIGHTS



Rick Jennings/The Shakerite

Eliminate the electoral college for a fair and balanced election

By Alex Madorsky
Staff Reporter

Quite an election thus far, folks. While I sit at home ill, afflicted with fever (election fever, I dare say) on the day after, the election is still too close to call. Ballots in Florida are being recounted, and between overseas ballots and fraud allegations, it may be weeks before we discover who the next fearless leader shall be.

This election will be settled in the quintessential American manner: in our courts. It seems that nothing is to garish for Vice President Gore's legal squad, and they plan to contest Palm Beach County ballots that may have led to 3,000 liberal retirees inadvertently voting for Pat Buchanan. I fully expect to be defamed by my Democratic classmates upon returning from my hiatus.

Surely, they say, Marxist swine like me and Ralph Nader cost them the election. Of course, it is Gore who cost himself the election. The fact that an unctuous character such as Gore seems to have won the popular vote proves the point that any other Democratic politico (e.g., Bill Bradley) would have re-soundingly defeated Bush in these halcyon days of the Prozac economy. Because of his corporatist economic views, Gore lost even West Virginia, a working-class Democratic fiefdom carried by Michael "The Duke" Dukakis in 1988.

After being served dishwasher coffee by Gore and his right-wing "New Democrats," West Virginians merely voted for George W. Bush - the man who they thought would best protect guns and mountain-top removal mining.

If the Democrat is anti-union anyway, why would they bother voting for the Democrat? It will

be a simply delightful bit of irony if it is Buchanan, not Nader, who helped seal the vice president's fate.

Gore enthusiasts will complain that their man should be the next president because more people voted for him. I humbly suggest they read the Constitution.

It clearly stipulates that whomever wins Florida will be the next president. Never mind it isn't Bush's fault people couldn't understand the ballots in Palm Beach, or that there is no way of proving one meant to vote for a candidate other than the one actually receiving the vote.

The election does question the legitimacy of the continuance of the Electoral College in public policy. Indiana Democratic Senator Birch Bayh first proposed eliminating it in his unsuccessful 1976 presidential bid. Bayh was right.

In contemporary politics, it is unlikely the Electoral College will exercise the aristocratic role the founders envisioned and choose a qualified candidate for president (if any occasion existed to throw out the two nominees of the masses, this would be it).

Moreover, it is unfair the vote of a Californian is of greater worth than that of a Montanan. Then we wouldn't have to worry about the dreaded Palm Beach scenario, where a convoluted ballot may be why there will be another President Bush. For now, however, the Democrats should get over the election.

I can't imagine such an ineffectual nitwit winning reelection. Then again, they said the same thing about a governor named Clinton in 1994.

Oh well. At least if Bush wins, we won't have to worry about him driving around drunk any-
more.

Letters to THE EDITOR

Now I've got something to say!

To the Editors-

I wish to address the subject of religion in the Shakerite, a topic which has appeared in the paper several times during the past few years. Among a few other instances, I remember specifically when the material on the front lawn, and when students gathered around the flag pole in prayer for "See You at the Pole". Those articles did not have to discuss opinions on those various issues, but they did. Those articles were news stories, not editorials. Also, in the last issue of the Shakerite, there was an article published in the "Ten Second Tick-off" section which blatantly attacked the expression of religion by some students in our school. The publishing of that article took the issue too far. Granted, publishing an article like that is the paper's right, yet it was insulting and demeaning to a portion of the student population, and I know no other school paper that would be allowed to publish an article like that. You've already assaulted the religious, will you next publish an article attacking gay people, or minorities? At a public school we are guaranteed freedom of religion, therefore if a person wishes to pray at school, that is his or her business, and who are we to publicly question his or her motives? Maybe we need to start having more respect for a person with conviction, for it is all too rare. Perhaps the Shakerite should take a few more things into consideration before publishing something of that nature.

Amanda Webb

Editor's Note: The Shakerite is an open forum for student expression. Like any other student newspaper operating under the guidelines of an open forum, the students control content and editorial decisions. The piece in question was clearly labeled an opinion piece, and students are free to agree or disagree via Letters to the Editor.

Cheers & JEERS

Cheers to bagels, the food of the

gods
Jeers to the election, just call a
winner already

Cheers to Shaker

Wrestling--a new coach a new
attitude

Jeers to John Hart for his
treatment of Sandy Alomar Jr.

In the middle of trouble, solutions are hard to find

Threats. Hit lists. Prank phone calls. Parents yelling and kids scared to come to school. Is this what Shaker Heights Middle School has come to? Some blame the students, while others point to the administra-

tion. Can we chalk it up to the class division in Shaker? Should we give the fault to the principal? Dialogues have begun concerning both causes and solutions, and it seems that all eyes are focused on the middle school.

The editors of the Shakerite suggest possible remedies as well as underlying trends, while students in the hallways of the high school look back on the middle school and reflect on what can and should be done.

Shaker SPEAKS

With all of the trouble stirring up at Shaker Middle School lately, the students at the high school have a lot to say. While the administrators, parents, and teachers seem to be busy pinpointing problems, but solutions for a complex problem are hard to come by. Here is what some students think about SMS and about what can be done.



NAME: Paul Bartholomae
GRADE: Sophomore

"They need more security up in that school."

NAME: Trevor Hackett
GRADE: Sophomore

"They should worry less about enforcing dress codes and worry more about security and discipline."



NAME: Sylvester Lyons
GRADE: Freshman

"What they need to do is put more security in that school."

NAME: Katie Klein
GRADE: Junior

"I think that the faculty gives too much attention to insufficient details such as wearing sweatshirts around their waists instead of dealing with behavioral issues."



NAME: Lauren Bauer
GRADE: Senior

"Middle school students should feel safe going to school, and administrators need to buckle down and realize that problems are real."



NAME: Carl Norman
GRADE: Freshman

"They should have kids go to their counselors so that they can sort out their problems."



Joseph Fungang/The Shakerite

The middle school must make changes

With the middle school in upheaval, accusations are flying and solutions are being suggested. But no one has stopped long enough to consider asking for help from the most valuable source — students.

Yes, high school students. We have the maturity to look at this problem objectively, yet are not so distant from it that we have forgotten how it feels to be 13 years old.

Understanding the adolescent psyche, we can differentiate between realistic solutions and those that just look good on paper. We are recent graduates of that unstable school, and eyewitnesses to the transformation the high school fosters in its students.

In making this transition, we experienced the effect of a school's administration on its students. Perhaps a change in attitude by the middle school's administrators would alleviate some of the problems plaguing their school. Here are some suggestions:

1) **Allow your students more freedom.** Give them the chance to prove their maturity before you take away their privileges. Dressing up on Halloween and carrying backpacks are only dangerous when the students are given the impression that they aren't trusted enough to enjoy the school day.

2) **Be visible.** If your students can't see you, they will assume you don't care. Showing you are interested in them is crucial if you expect their respect. Authority can never be effective if it isn't respected.

3) **Give the students responsibilities that**

matter. If you show that you trust them, they will learn to trust both you and themselves.

4) **Refer to them as young adults.** Calling students boys and girls will create students who act like boys and girls.

5) **Expect them to succeed.** Set high standards and the students will strive to meet them.

6) **Never ignore the problems — your students' or your community's.** We all want to uphold Shaker's reputation, but while pretending the problems aren't there may be a good PR move, it serves only to exacerbate the problem and leave our students frightened.

The difference between the middle school and the high school is the philosophy toward students. Harsh regulations and uncomfortable restrictions at the middle school indicate to students that adults do not believe they are capable of acting maturely. The combination of freedom and responsibility at the high school lets students know that their administrators believe in their success, and students act to uphold those standards. The middle school administration would do well to look both to the high school's students and programs in examining solutions for bettering their building.

Discipline problems at the middle school are the result of a number of factors, many which are out of the administration's control. However, one thing they can do is to create respect and trust by showing those qualities first.



Debra Kamin
Opinion Co-editor

Where did all the humans go?

Ahh, the holidays. Lights go up on the trees, skating rinks fill, shopping malls clog, and the endless stream of relatives pours in. Just last week, I was at the airport, picking up my sister. It's funny, the experience one can have in an airport. Why, I would even say that to spend a day in an airport is to fully experience a microcosm of American society.

The very first encounter I had at the airport was with the ever-so-personal ticketing machine in the parking garage. There was a tollbooth complete with a seat that seemed to be fashioned for a live worker, but strangely, it was vacant. A round button and blinking red light sufficed for contact as I leaned out my car and reached over to receive the scrap of paper that clocked my time in the garage. Was Big Brother watching?

Next, after finally finding a parking spot on the highest level in the far corner, I followed the neatly laid out signs to the elevator. My parents once told me that long ago, elevators were operated by actual people. Not anymore. I was all alone. One lady did enter at level two and accompanied me to the ground floor, but of course we did not speak. Awkward eye contact was enough.

By the time I reached the gate, I decided to take a break. I entered the ladies' room and lo and behold! Electronics had taken care of everything. Flushing the toilet was automatic, leaving me surprised at the convenience. Sensors turned the faucet on and off for me and warm air dried my hands.

I reached the gate and, according to my digital watch, was right on time. There was no representative of the airline there to greet me, but behind the desk there did flash a screen with updates on my sister's flight.

On the way back to the car, walking with our heads down and our eyes averted, my sister bumped into another human headed in the opposite direction. After an awkward pause we kept going, and I was glad when we finally reached the moving walkways. There was no need for any conversation and my legs were certainly tired from the strenuous work of the airport.

It wasn't until I got home, and had to open and close my own doors and turn on and off my own faucets, that I began to once again feel my humanity.

Yes, I am a Republican

• A person's political views or preferences does not make them subject to ridicule and insults by peers

By Ashley Davies
Staff Reporter

This is a news flash to many liberals and Democrats: THE FIRST AMENDMENT WAS NOT MADE JUST FOR YOU AND PEOPLE WHO AGREE WITH YOU! Yes, that means that people have the right to voice their opinions, no matter how different. They also have the right not to be personally attacked by uninformed people who have no real grasp of the issues.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not saying that you are wrong to have Democratic views; you could call yourself a commie pinko sympathizer for all I care. You still have the right to voice your opinion without fearing for your well being. It is sad to hear and actually experience the crime of theft as Bush and Cheney signs all over are being ripped out of people's front yard and their right to freedom of speech is violated.

This little thing called the First Amendment gives people the right to freedom of speech. Our anti-federalist forefathers obviously considered that freedom very important — it was listed first. Thank goodness for brilliant men such as Thomas Jefferson, who were trying to protect the people from the government. Without them, who knows what would have happened to this country?

Yes, I am proud to be a Republican. Although I consider myself a conservative who agrees with Republicans, I will stick to the label of Republican for argument's sake. Being one of few Republicans in this school, I have endured treatment that I would not wish upon my worst enemy. I have been yelled at by both teachers and students, called all the names in the book and forced to hold my tongue for fear that I will be ambushed be-

cause of my beliefs.

I don't think abortion should be illegal, but I don't think that it should be used as a form of birth control. If you break into my home, and I think that you are threatening my life, I have the right to decide whether or not I want to shoot you. That is my right, also known as the second amendment.

I am a proud member of the NRA and I do not believe that there should be more gun control restrictions put on law-abiding citizens. I do think the government should enforce the many laws already made to punish those who break them. For these beliefs and my many others, I have been subjected to harassment.

On one occasion when I tried to have an educated and civilized debate with a classmate who called herself a Democrat, I was yelled at — her face only a few inches from



my nose. After being called names such as "idiot" and "stupid"

I calmly asked for her reasons why she called herself a Democrat. At that time she stated that she "just didn't want to be a Republican." Not too surprised by her answer, I then tried to ask her whether a certain issue had persuaded her and again she said, "I just don't want to be a Republican."

This is a friendly tip. Make sure you know

what you're talking about before you involve yourself in a conversation. Make sure that you know most, if not all of the viewpoints on political issues when defending yourself.

As for the faculty, the treatment has not been as harsh. Many teachers try not to voice their personal opinion, and I can't help but agree with their decision. I am not saying that teachers, like everybody else, don't have the right to freedom of speech, but I think that teachers should be neutral figures in the classroom who help students understand the issues, not their personal opinions. I don't think that teachers realize that they are authority figures over young impressionable minds, and that when they voice their opinions, they may persuade the student's way of thinking.

Some of the faculty however, take their opinions and voice them to the extreme and then are offended when students disagree. I have heard heavily slanted remarks from teachers during class about the recent election, comments that are rude and unnecessary and in some cases offensive. I will not quote or paraphrase these remarks so as to avoid singling out or embarrassing certain teachers.

As I said before I am not looking for converts to see the Republican way of life, but what I am looking for is tolerance. In an age when we have racial tolerance, religious tolerance and, in these recent years, sexual tolerance, is it so much to ask for political tolerance. It's sad to see that even this little request can not be met.

DON'T YOU
HAVE SOME
PLACE TO BE?



Did I miss a meeting?

Did the students and faculty get together and make some decision that every student must stay in the hallways after school for as long as is humanly possible? Once athletes and club members have headed to their locations, why aren't people leaving, going home, to a friend's house or to an activity outside of school once the 2:58 bell rings? Doesn't anyone besides me have a life? Perhaps Elvis has been spotted in the hallway or liberal faculty are now holding class in the halls when school is over. Unless you are assisting the custodians, head out and do something with your free time.

10-second
tick-off

OH, DON'T BE A
SCROOGE

You know what? We already made *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas* into a movie so there is absolutely NO EXCUSE for those hum-bugs who try to badmouth those of us who like to get into the holiday spirit early! I do not deserve a diatribe just because "O Holy Night" is my favorite song. Whether it is Hannukah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, Thanksgiving, New Year's, etc. etc. etc., getting a head start on the festivities and celebrations isn't committing a crime, so lay off!

JUST HOW OLD
AM I AGAN?

I'm turning 18 soon. Yes, I will be able to vote, buy cigarettes, and even die for my country. Boy am I excited...except I think that it's ridiculous that I can fight in a war and can't buy a beer. How is it that someone is considered responsible enough to defend their country's name and elect their country's leader, but not be allowed to kick back with a brew on Sunday while watching the game? Just what do our lawmakers consider criteria to have a drink? It's not like minors don't imbibe all the time. If good Old Uncle Sam wants me to partake in patriotic activities as an adult, he'd better start treating me like one.

See no evil Hear no evil Speak no evil



Listen up: angry moms work toward censoring music

By Mary O'Connell and Allison Walthe Staff Reporters

A hand in black, outlined in green. A shackle is clamped upon the wrist, and a long, middle finger with a grotesque fingernail is fully extended, giving the familiar one-fingered peace sign. And across it all is scrawled a defiant message: Censor This!!

The friendly greeting is courtesy of a webpage titled Rock Out Censorship (www.theroc.org), one of the many devoted to battling censorship of the creators' favorite musicians. Their main target is the Parents' Music Resource Center, co-founded in 1985 by Tipper Gore, wife of Vice President Al Gore.

The PMRC was founded by a group of mothers, including Tipper, who found the language and subject matter in their children's music offensive. Their goal, according to PMRC president Barbara T. Wyatt in a statement to Congress in 1998, was to educate parents about the lyrics on their children's CDs. Their goal was "not to promote legislation," said Wyatt to the Senate, "but to alert the public as to the corrupt and blatant messages being sold to children." The

PMRC was largely responsible for the parental advisory warnings now printed on CD labels. Even though the labels were voluntarily adopted by record companies, it was only after they felt pressure from the PMRC.

The PMRC stirred up controversy among musicians and fans alike. "It is my understanding that in law the First Amendment issues are decided with a preference for the least restrictive alternative. In this context, the PMRC demands are the equivalent of treating dandruff by decapitation," musician Frank Zappa told Congress in 1998.

"I don't necessarily support an established rating system," said freshman Andrea Kutik, "but [I would support] adding to the label a forewarning that the lyrics contain something questionable."

Some CDs have been labeled by their production company. Because the label is voluntary, however, there is no standard for which lyrics qualify for advisories. Application of the labels differs from company to company, which is

why parents still find it hard to discern whether the CDs are appropriate for their children.

"I think that [the label] should be like a movie rating," said freshman Caleb Botze.

The parental advisory warnings are only the most recent battle in the censorship war. Music censorship has been around since music became an art form.

One early example of music censorship came during the 1850s, when Giuseppe Verdi's opera, *La Traviata* had to be revised several times because the citizens of Naples and Rome did not approve of the line, "He took the desired prize, in the arms of love." The line was rewritten to a more appropriate phrase.

Modern music censorship started with the popularity of rock 'n' roll in the early 1950s. In 1951, radio stations in the United States banned Dean Martin's "Wham, Bam, Thank You Ma'am" feeling that the lyrics were sexually explicit. In the same decade, Elvis Presley was warned by police in California and Florida that he would be arrested on obscenity charges if he wiggled his hips during

performances in those states.

In the '60s, the FBI started gathering data on musicians such as Bob Dylan, Jim Morrison and Woody Guthrie. The Beatles were also heavily criticized in 1963 when John Lennon said, "We're more popular than Jesus now." Their records were boycotted and burned.

More recently, artists such as Madonna, Marilyn Manson and Eminem have been heavily censored. Many Christian organizations have protested Manson, saying that his music sends Satanic messages. The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation has criticized Eminem, citing homophobic lyrics. GLAAD argues that the lyrics are dangerous and insulting. In 1991, Wal-Mart announced that it would not carry any CDs with parental advisory warning stickers on them. In the same year, a cable provider with systems in six states pulled MTV from its programming.

Despite crusades to censor music, Shaker students still enjoy the raunchy, the foul and the objectionable. Cruising around the oval, they exercise their First Amendment right—loudly.

Junior Mike Bass likes to shout Jay-Z and Dr. Dre while riding in his blue Nissan Sentra. "It's my music," he said, "and I don't care what people think."

Shaker speaks, or do they?

By Kelly Schaefer Staff Reporter

"I know most of you guys don't care much about golf, but for all the ladies out there, I want them to know what we are all about. We got big sticks and we know how to use them," said Drew Kolb during the fateful first pep rally of the year, which took place Sept. 8.

Things went downhill from there, said Kolb, a senior, who now believes he was a victim of censorship.

The senior claims that censorship occurred when he was punished for his comments and forced to

apologize, and continued when he was only allowed to read part of his apology over the morning announcements.

According to Kolb, he and several of his teammates had written the speech earlier that day and had the entire presentation read and approved by senior class president Amy Gross.

The consequences of his comment be-

gan to set in during the football game the day after the pep rally, when assistant principal Marianne Bursi told Kolb she expected to see him in her office the following Monday.

"She said she wanted to talk to me about my actions. And I was like, 'Great,'" Kolb said. "So I was sitting in 9th period, and I got a call letter to go to my unit principal, Ms. Spurrier."

According to Kolb, Ann Spurrier told him that he offended many people with his inappropriate comment, and that the administration had received several letters of disapproval from both students and adults. Kolb said that Spurrier declined to show him the letters, and

would not let his parents view them because of privacy issues.

Kolb said that at no time did he meet with principal Michael Griffith.

Spurrier would not comment on the punishment

Kolb faced, citing confidentiality of student records. However, she explained that his behavior violated sections seven and eight of the student handbook, which address both oral and written hazing and harassment of students and teachers.

Griffith said that although he was not aware of any letters expressing disapproval, Kolb's comment was insensitive and problematic because it interrupted the environment, which was free from any sexual harassment.

The administration has the right to discipline students for offensive speech, according to the *Bethel School District v. Fraser* 1986 Supreme Court case. This case resulted from disciplinary action against a student for using sexual innuendos at a school assembly. The court said that the first amendment does not protect student speech when deemed inappropriate.

Originally, Kolb said that he was told he would most likely receive a 10-day suspension because of his comment at the rally. When this was reduced to three days, Kolb told administrators that he could not afford a suspension on his transcript. Kolb said the punishment was then reduced to five Saturday schools and further lowered to three Saturday schools and a written apology to be read aloud to the student body after teammate Eric Edelsberg talked to the administration on his behalf.

"I thought the whole thing was ridiculous and that I shouldn't have been punished," Kolb said. "If they wanted to get me in trouble, they should have done



What are the real rules?

FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS IN SHAKEN

•The seventh and eighth sections of SHS's handbook ban both oral and written harassment of students and teachers.

•PA announcements are read daily by academic advisor Mary Lynne McGovern, and are signed by club sponsors.

•Student council campaign speeches are prior reviewed by student council advisor Sally Hagstrand and other teacher advisors.

it right then."

Kolb wrote his apology and turned in a copy before the scheduled announcement. When he arrived to make the announcement at the designated time, Kolb claims that his apology was highlighted to note which parts he was allowed to read.

Angered at not being able to read his full apology letter, Kolb explained that he read the letter mechanically so that it was obvious he was forced to read it.

Mary Lynne McGovern, who is in charge of the student PA announcements, said that she reads all announcements before they are read over the system. She said that the announcements are almost always also signed by the club sponsors before they are submitted, except in rare cases when the sponsor could not be reached. McGovern said that her only problems with the announcements have been repetitiveness, length and clarity.

Now aware of the implications of his remark, Kolb said that given another chance, he would not repeat his comment. Yet, he believes that because the comment was made to make people laugh and was not meant to offend anyone, he did no wrong. He added that the crowd laughed and cheered after he made his speech.

"I don't really think it mattered. Everyone thought it was funny and didn't think anything of it," said sophomore Nicole Coles, who attended the pep rally.

Although he understands that his comment could be taken the "wrong way," he believes that adults took the situation to the extreme. "If the opportunity comes and I give another speech, I'm sure I'll make it funny," Kolb said.

A Twinsburg principal recently demanded prior review of his high school's newspaper. Is this principal violating student rights or instilling responsibility?



-SANDRA BAKASA, senior

"I think that the principal shouldn't care what the students put in the paper, as long as it's the truth and it's not rated R."

-DEMETRIUS TATUM, sophomore



-ELLEN MALONE, senior

"I think that the first amendment should be applied everywhere, including at school. School shouldn't be a dictatorship."

-KELLY JONS, faculty

"I don't think it's the principal's job to censor, unless it's obscene or socially unacceptable. It's the job of the students and the advisors."

Just chew it

Gum is great when in its place, but under the table it's quite a disgrace.

By Jeanne Bright
Staff Reporter

As she gets her first taste of sugary goodness for the day, junior Nicole Grasso immediately goes on an unnatural high.

Soon, classmates realize what she's got, and they all need some to curb their addictions. If she doesn't have enough from her own stash, she will succumb to any alternative just to get through the long day.

Drugs? Not likely. These students are in need of gum, a fad that has been going strong for decades.

"If I have a pack I'll chew a lot of it, and usually everyone asks me for some," Grasso said.

And why not? Everyone spits the gum out into their tidy wrappers and disposes of it properly, right? Wrong! Most of the time students spit out their gum whenever it loses its flavor, and usually it doesn't even land close to a trash can. Discovering a piece of gum under your desk can be a frightening experience — it's even worse when it's still wet.

"I think you can chew gum, just as long as it doesn't make a mess," said Alexandra Gordon, a freshman.

The gum-disposing problem isn't unique to the high school. Any amusement park fanatic can tell you that the 'gum wall of fame' next to any popular ride is always a highlight.

Yet, gum was never meant to be nuisance. The first historically traceable use of gum was as a breath freshener, created by the Greeks.

In 1928, an accountant named Walter Diemer developed the first bubble gum (Dubble Bubble), and colored it pink because it was the only dye he had on hand.

Exactly how long has gum-chewing being a fad among students? English teacher Carol Van Valkenburg, who has taught for 27 years, said that gum chewing has always been popular.

She doesn't mind when students chew gum, just as long as they do not make annoying noises and distract from the learning process.

Big Red.

**WRIGLEY'S
SPEARMINT**



Lauren Geber shows off her amazing bubble gum bubble blowing abilities.

Not all members of the faculty feel the same way. "It always gets stuck to a chair, and it ruins peoples' clothing," said theater teacher Ned Galloway. "It's not a nice people thing to do. We might as well pelt them with eggs."

Okay, so messiness is a problem. Swallowing gum seems a possible solution, but many are convinced that the stuff stays in your stomach for seven years. This is pure folklore. It is true that gum base (the ingredient that makes it chewy) is not soluble in the stomach, but it is as easily digested as popcorn and leaves your digestive track within a couple of days.

"One time I ate a whole 10-pack of Bubblicious for dinner. I swallowed it all too," said junior Travis Graves.

Even though Shaker does not condone gum chewing, students basically chew whenever they want.

Sophomore Loren Anthes said, "If I don't get gum, I go crazy, and I become crazy because I have bad breath. I love gum!"

Things you never knew about gum

- San Luis Obispo, California is the home of 'Bubble Gum Alley,' a small alley covered with already-been-chewed gum wads.

- The US military issues gum to its soldiers because it's been proven to help people concentrate on their work and it helps boost morale.

- It is illegal to manufacture, import or sell gum in Singapore.

- Japanese chemists have invented 'Mood Gum.' Mood Gum changes color when you're happy, sad, angry, etc.

- English police officers used to be forbidden to chew gum. It was thought that the gum could get stuck in their whistles during an emergency.

-Compiled by Rebecca Wolff

Cliffs Notes: helpful hints or cheating?

CliffsNotes

www.barrons.com has 99 titles; has a search for words in the articles

www.pinkmonkey.com has over 300 literary summaries; also has actual texts; must sign up to use it, but it's free

www.sparknotes.com has 257 titles; includes author info, character sketches, overall summary, and chapter summaries

www.cliffsnotes.com have more than 290 titles that can be downloaded; costs money each time you download notes

www.novelguides.com 72 titles; includes novel summary, character profiles, metaphor analysis, theme analysis, top 10 quotes and biography of author

By Rachel Hutt
Copy Editor

It's 2 in the morning and you've just finished the 10-page history paper due tomorrow. You take in a deep breath and begin to heave a sigh of relief, when suddenly you remember that you have a test on *Great Expectations* today and you're only on page 30. You frantically search the house for the Cliffs Notes, only to discover that they are nowhere to be found. Just as you are about to resign yourself to failure, you remember some words of wisdom once imparted to you by the wise senior neighbor: AOL Keyword: barron's booknotes.

With the infiltration of the Internet in society, websites such as barrons.com have made accessing Cliffs Notes equivalents faster, easier and best of

all, free! And with this development has come the debate over whether the use of these sites constitutes cheating or simply being resourceful.

"Using [the websites] is OK," junior Seth Malone said. "They never said we couldn't use them, so it's not technically against the rules."

However, some teachers have begun to speak out against these websites, which they say make it all too easy for a student to get away without actually reading the book.

"Students will say it's to help them, but nine times out of 10 they just abandon the book," said English teacher Cathy Lawlor, who estimates that anywhere between a quarter and a half of her students use these website notes. Lawlor added that although she is not opposed to the existence of these sites, there is danger that they will be abused.

"You miss out on the literary experience," by using notes, said Lawlor, who has asked her students to refrain from using these websites.

Not all teachers see the use of these websites as detracting from the purpose of the reading.

"I don't feel uncomfortable with kids using [the websites]. I see it as another extremely useful tool," said Ed Jackson, an intervention specialist who encourages his students to make use of note sites. Jackson specifically suggests pinkmonkey.com.

However he quickly added that he makes sure to consult with his students' English teachers before having them use the websites.

"My goal is to work collaboratively with the teachers," he said. "I have no interest in undermining them."

Many students agree that the websites can be used as helpful study tools along with reading the actual book. "I think if you're reading the book, notes from the websites give you a better understanding," said sophomore Deborah Kaufman.

Senior Nate Thompson agreed. "I don't think it's cheating, because it helps people to study," he said.

However, English teacher George Harley pointed out that by using these websites, students run the risk of obtaining inaccurate information. "We as teachers can't prevent their use, but students have to be smart enough to evaluate the information," Harley said.

There's still a few new crew left

• 18 fresh faculty faces joined the fray this fall. Here's a look at 4 more.

By Steve Kawalek
Staff Reporter

Mark Grey
SLD Tutor
background:

- went to Kent State where he majored in history and political science

- he got his teaching certificate at the University of Hawaii

interesting facts:

- he has played drums in three different bands

- was a captain in the Marines for four years



Karen Tuschman
school psychologist
background:

- worked in N Y C schools while running a private practice

- recently worked for Mayfield schools and still works for University Hospitals

interesting fact:

- did community volunteer work in juvenile homes, county jails and in prisons in New York



Robert Weaver
Spanish teacher
past experience:

- taught at Northampton High School in Virginia for a year

background:

- went to CSU, got bachelor's degree in communications and Spanish; later got his master's degree in education

interesting fact:

- loves to travel; has been to Italy and Dominican Republic



Marla Papcum
ceramics and art exploration
past experience:

- taught art at Center Elementary in Mayfield Heights for one year

background:

- got her bachelor's degree at CSU, majored in human expression; got her master's degree at CWRU, majored in art education

interesting fact:

- studied art in France



Hey Shaker, let's go clubbin'!

• Clubs are plentiful at Shaker- but how do you balance skiing, feeding the hungry and tuba lessons with your nightly homework load?

By Liza Moody and Rebecca Wolff
Feature Co-editors

Feed the hungry. Save the environment. Learn about Israeli Culture.

Upon entering the high school, freshmen can't help but notice the incredible number of clubs available to them. From Fencing Club to Future Educators of America to German Club, there seems to be an opportunity for every student to get involved, meet new people and pad that college application.

Senior Arthur Yaskey advises freshmen to "get involved in as much as you can and get involved early because colleges like that." Yaskey participates in student council, MAC Scholars and Take Action.

Along with opportunities to discover new people and activities, comes the very real possibility of becoming overwhelmed. Freshmen are thrust into a new environment and that alone can take time for adjustment without the added distraction of extracurricular activities.

"Try to go to as many clubs as you can, just to see what they're like. You don't have to join all of them," junior Andrea Thoennes said. Thoennes remembers when she was a freshman and how hard it was to decide which clubs to join. "If you have one or two clubs and you don't have a sport, it shouldn't take up too much time," said Thoennes, who is a member of SGORR and plays field hockey. "If you plan ahead and organize,

you'll be fine."

Another problem that arises for freshmen once they sign up for a club is being able to play a significant role in the organization. Freshmen generally learn the ropes within a particular club before taking on leadership roles, but are ninth graders given a fair chance to voice their opinions?

As far as freshman participation, Katherine Brown, one of the staff advisers of YEH, noted that many freshman members were involved in the spaghetti dinner by making menus and other similar jobs. Brown talked about the dedication required by students to participate in a club. "The upperclassmen who are officers devote a lot of time," she said.

At Shaker, where overachieving is a way of life for some, a question of how much is too much arises.

Geri Kleinman, a guidance counselor, believes that students naturally know when to "pull back." "I've never told anyone to give up an activity," Kleinman said. She admits that some kids are overextended, but they are in the minority. "The more involved you are, the more rewarding it is. The more involved you are, the better your grades," Kleinman stated. "There's a happy medium."

On the other end of the activity spectrum, there are the students who are only involved in one extracurricular, or none at all. Arthur Boyd, a sophomore, is on the football team. "I

haven't found any (other clubs) that interest me," said Boyd. "You have more time. If you don't understand something, you have time to go to your teachers," he said.

Freshman Will Seitz loves being involved at the high school. "Definitely," he said when asked if he enjoys participating extra-curricular activities. Seitz reports that he hasn't had any difficulty keeping up with his work for school while playing soccer and being a member of SGORR. "It gives me a sense of pride for my school to be a part of clubs."



Freshman Feature



Andrew Denton is involved in Environmental Club, Take Action and Youth Ending Hunger. He says it can be hard to find time after

school to attend meetings for each club, but is happy to be a part of these activities. "I feel a lot more involved in the school," Denton said. Denton also is appreciative of the upperclassmen who are friendly to him and fellow freshmen.



Serena Hendricks and her parents decided that this year she shouldn't be involved in any extracurricular activities. "I feel I have to

concentrate on my school work this year." Hendricks was in SGORR but she dropped out early in the year. "It was going to take up most of my time." Sometimes Hendricks wishes she was involved in more clubs. "Let's say I was stressed about a test. If I were doing an activity it would take my mind off of it."

Fed up with fashion

• Welcome to Shaker High School, where everyday is a fashion show, according to Allison Waithe

By Allison Waithe
Staff Reporter

Tight jeans, four-inch heels, neon eye shadow. A fashion show? Of sorts. Walk through any hallway at the high school and you'll see the same things. You may even be wearing them.

I don't want to knock anyone's form of self-expression, and I think that Shaker students should be commended for their incredible fashion sense. I myself am a proud owner of hoop earrings and jingly bracelets, and I wear them to school. I wear makeup and have been known to wear shoes that give my 5'4" frame an extra two inches or so. I do believe there is a limit, however.

When I began my freshman year, I started wearing a lot of junk on my face. I would spend at least a half hour every morning on makeup; concealer, foundation, blush, three shades of eye shadow, mascara, lip liner, lipstick and gloss. And then came the hair. Now I can't believe that I was actually sitting in my bathroom at 6:30 in the morning blow drying and straightening just to go to school.

Once sophomore year came around, I finally succumbed to sleep. I was not going to get up at six every day to cover myself up. Now, I spend about five minutes, tops, on my face and maybe ten on my hair. And that's not so long considering my curling iron takes three minutes to heat up, and after many burns, I've learned that the best way to handle flaming hot metal near your face is very slowly.

Now I shudder when I see girls walking down the hall, hob-

bling on sky scraper tall boots and costumed and painted like circus horses. This isn't a party, and there aren't any modeling scouts in the building. They should put their energy into something more productive, like studying and sleeping.

It's entirely possible that these girls are intelligent- in fact, it's likely. I see them in my honors and AP classes. They aren't bimbos. Why, then, do they act like bimbos? In the hall boys disrespect them, grabbing them and pinching them. The girls playfully slap them, smiling and screaming, "Stop!" How a girl dresses, whether in a short skirt or khakis, does not make her deserving of harassment. Someone who expects respect should not dress like they're going to a club.

As young women, we need to be confident and not feel that we have to be decked out all the time just to look good. Some of the prettiest girls in school dress casually and wear a moderate amount of makeup. They save all the glam stuff for a special occasion and to really wow everyone else.

Coming to school shouldn't have to require any major procedures. After all, it really is about learning. When you apply to college or apply to a job, they won't care that you were solely responsible for bringing the capri pants craze to Shaker in '99.

As an individual, and not a slave to fashion, you'll be able to succeed and feel comfortable in your own skin. A girl with a big smile who stands tall will really make heads turn because she has confidence. And that never goes out of style.



1042

What's in your locker, David Stone?



Why do you have a guitar falling out of your locker?

"I thought I had jazz today, but I didn't so I'm leaving it here."

What is that tall coffee mug at the top of your locker?

"This is from the beginning of the year. I'm just too lazy to take it home." What books are at the bottom of your locker?

"Those are books that I haven't even looked at."



-Compiled by Katie Glass

Network TV shows are going down the tube

• The premieres this season are proving the point that TV shows are getting worse each year

By Sean Ferguson
Staff Reporter

Cursed
8:30 pm Thursday, NBC

The title of this show is derived from the luck of its main character, Jack, because something bad seems to happen to him every episode. Jack's roommate Larry is often the cause of Jack's problems and his insane actions help in the show's humor. However, the plots are always idiotic and the humor is dry. With bad plots and shoddy writing chances are this show will run one season at best.

Gideon's Crossing
10 pm Wednesday, NBC

Another new-comer to NBC's line-up is *Gideon's Crossing*. Although the acting is good, unlike most shows airing these days, and the characters are all likeable and semi-realistic, their paths rarely cross making the show difficult to follow. Irony that its title includes the word "crossing", isn't it?

An interesting aspect of the show is that Gideon, the main character, is not always the main focus, rather there are many doctors' lives being followed.

The show does have its highs. For example, the showcasing of many minorities gives the show some major props. It's not a great drama, but not a total waste of time either.

Normal, Ohio
8:30 pm Wednesday, FOX

John Goodman stars on this FOX show as Butch, a homosexual man struggling with his family in the fictional town of Normal, Ohio. While his sister uses the term "gay" as an insult and his mother treats his homo-

sexuality as a disease, the show revolves around Butch's struggle to be himself.

All of the acting is sub-par, with the best actor on the show, Goodman, only adequate. Although his sport-loving, beer-drinking character is quite lovable, who knows why Goodman thought this show had a chance? Though an interesting idea with clever aspects, this show is flat out disappointing.

Girlfriends
9:30 pm Monday, UPN

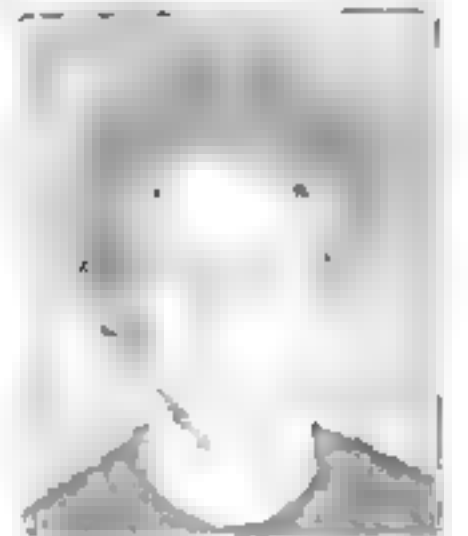
This new comedy follows the lives of four African American women in today's world. Following Joan, Maya, Lynn and Toni can be entertaining, but while watching you can't help but wonder how they have time to always hang out together or talk to each other on the phone while working. The show would be ok, if only these women's lives were just a little bit believable.

Meryl Kramer

Boston Public
8 pm Monday, FOX

This show tops the rest for being unrealistic. The list of questions I have at the end of *Boston Public* grows each week. The show continues to go to major extremes to please audiences, making up surreal situations that we all know would and could never happen. Students kissing teachers with no penalty? Ya right. Teachers slamming kids against lockers with no penalty? No way. And at the end of these teachers' hard days filled with fictional high school life, they all hang out together? Although the American public is buying it, it doesn't mean it's all true.

Meryl Kramer and Sara Reichstein



Sean Ferguson
Staff Reporter

Down with TV!

I have a prejudice
I hate TV

My prejudice applies to all but a few shows and channels (Comedy Central and Cartoon Network, to name the few), but on the whole, I think television is just a huge waste of time. I'm sick of all the same idiotic shows with the same asinine plots, jokes and writers. Don't people have anything better to do than just sit around and watch the new episode of *Friends*, *Dawson's Creek* or *Buffy*? They're all the same in so many ways.

Most shows are very redundant, clichéd, and uninspired in terms of their humor and plots. Many channels use the same writers for different shows, and therefore, use the same jokes. Writers and producers of shows are doing very little to change what they've developed TV into. Almost every new show follows the precedent set by the old shows, and the ones before them. Writers and producers of TV shows only care about ratings, and in order to gain ratings they recycle jokes, plots and characters.

TV will only be worth watching when the shows and writers/producers making them are more imaginative and can come up with new ideas. I hope one day I will be able to turn on the TV at eight o'clock on a Thursday night and change the channel, only to find completely different shows with completely different plots and jokes on every channel.

But on that day, I probably still will not watch television.



Shaker students make Dobama da bomb

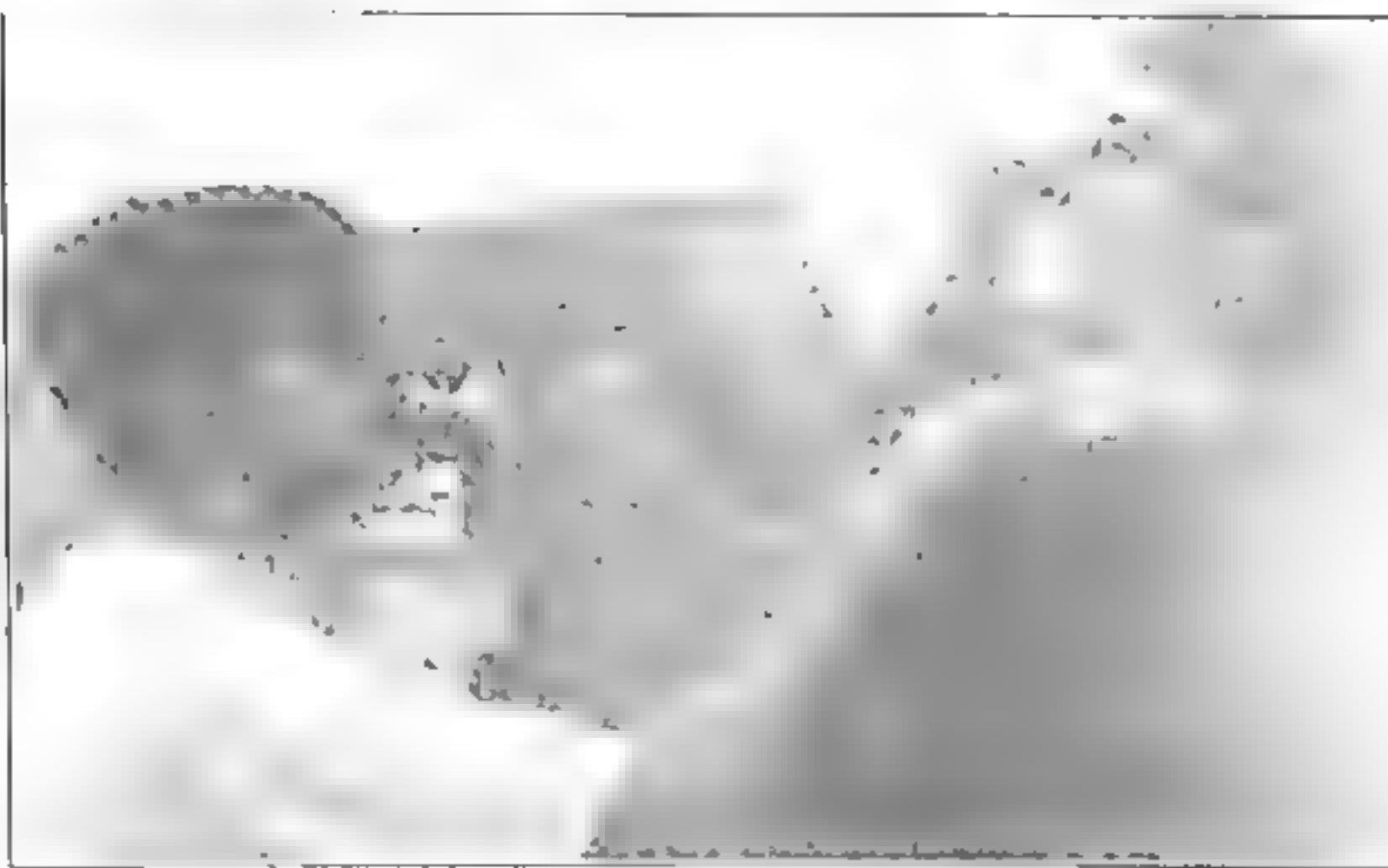
• This Coventry theater has been taken over by Shaker talent

By Chelsea Whitman-Rush
Staff Reporter

Boldly exploring the sensitive topics of teenage homosexuality, pregnancy and substance abuse in a satirical manner, Dobama Theatre's newest Night Kitchen hit, *Angst 84*, has Shaker students making this Coventry theater their school away from school.

A premiering play written by Toni K. Thayer, the performance opened Dobama's sixth season with a humorous look back at the year 1984, when jeans were tight and hair was at its biggest. The play centers on the rebellious nature of the student body at a high school, mandated like a prison. Between eternal detention, an endlessly positive principal with his over-bearing hall monitor, played by senior Elliott Klein, and perky PA reminders, the scene resembled every student's worst nightmare.

Despite the initial horror of the idea of such a high school, Shaker students were able to overlook these obstacles and get involved with the show. For junior Matt Ratner, who has been in Ensemble at the high school and is currently in Cole Porter's *Anything Goes*, performing at



Elliott Klein and Matt Ratner rehearse a scene from *Angst 84*, the recent Dobama production.

Dobama was a positive endeavor. "This was my first experience at Dobama," he said. "I had gone to their Night Kitchen shows and got wind of this through some friends and decided to get involved."

Sophomore Jessica Herzfeld had an amusing experience one night when a woman came into the show asking about program. "Before the show I was taking tickets from the people coming in. This one woman asked me about Dobama, but I had to be in character, so I acted like I had gotten in trouble for smoking pot and was here for detention."

Dobama is a small theater located on Coventry, in Cleveland Heights. *Angst 84* is one of the four or five shows produced every year, using plays written mostly by local playwrights. The shows run every year at 11 p.m.

on Friday and Saturday nights and at 8 p.m. on Sundays, hence the series title, Night Kitchen.

Elana Averbach, who played the shallow cheerleader, Winnie, noted differences between Dobama and Shaker theater.

"It's more individualized instead of focused on ensemble," she said. "It's a mixed cast, so half of the people are over 18 and half of them are under 18."

Herzfeld agreed that there are differences between the two. "We don't have a special warm-up," she said, referring to Dobama. "It's similar, but we do more vocal stuff."

No matter how they prepared, the students produced a great show with tremendous results.

Dan Kilbane, the show's director, added to the praise. "We have had a great response to this show. I am really pleased."

The box OFFICE

12/1
DJ Logic
Gund Arena

12/1
Aaron Carter
Lakewood Civic Auditorium

12/1
Silver Magnolia
Robin Hood

12/6
Graham Nash
Rock & Roll Hall of Fame

12/7
Dave Matthews Band
Gund Arena

12/7
KissMass Concert
Featuring
Mandy Moore
Rock & Roll Hall of Fame

12/8
Marilyn Manson
CSU Convocation Center

12/8
Wish You Were Here
The Odeon

12/10
George Carlin
The Palace Theater

12/12
Mushroomhead
The Odeon

12/12
Cypress Hill
The Agora

12/13
The Wallflowers
The Agora

12/31
Ekoostik Hookah
Agora Theater

Chloe Hill can make it happen

• This Shaker student really wows us with her amazing ability

By Lauren Gardner
Staff Reporter

The 1995 cast of *The Tempest* at Shaker didn't know it while they were performing, but they were helping to launch the career of senior Chloe Hill.

"I went to a few shows here before I was in high school. I think the first one I saw was *The Tempest*. I was so impressed and just blown away. I looked at the students in the play as professionals or gods," Hill said. Although Hill is neither a professional actress nor a god, she is a very talented actress with a principal role in *Anything Goes*, the fall musical production.

Hill plays Reno Sweeny, former evangelist turned nightclub singer. "She (Sweeny) is a diva and everyone is drawn to her. She is the kind of person who walks in the room and everyone stops to look at her, so it's a really fun part to play," Hill said.

However, the part does not come without obstacles for Hill. "The whole thing has been challenging because my character is so far from myself. The vocal range is really low, and it's a stretch for me," she said.

Hill is president of the Chanticleers and a three-year member of senior ensemble. As a sophomore, Hill wasn't confident about her senior ensemble audition. She was not called back and was not

initially cast. "I was very devastated, but on the last day of school Mr. Thornton invited me to their first meeting for the upcoming school year. So I went, and suddenly realized that I had gotten in. I was so happy," Hill said.

From then on Hill was immediately drawn to the uniqueness of the ensemble. "My favorite aspect of theater is that we're all so close and it's sort of like a family," she said. "It really teaches you about life. It's not like we learn stuff just about theater."

Even though Hill is learning so much from *Anything Goes*, her favorite performances are the ensemble shows. "My favorite ensemble show was the one last year called *Remembered Gate*. I was so involved in it and each performance was so rewarding."

In addition to all the experience Hill has accumulated at Shaker, she spent two summers at Interlochen, a camp that specializes in the fine arts. Hill spent those two summers, when she was 15 and 16, taking a lot of modern dance. "Interlochen is a really intense place, but in a good way, because people are so incredibly focused," she said.

Doing a lot is something Hill knows all about. On top of daily rehearsals for *Anything Goes*, which usually last from 3:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., but can go as late as 10:30 p.m., Hill has at least three hours of homework a night. In addition to weekly Chanticleers rehearsals, voice lessons and mu-



Mary O'Connell/The Shakerite

Chloe Hill, during a dress rehearsal for *Anything Goes*, performs the lead role of Reno Sweeny. Hill has been active in the theater department since her freshman year. She credits her interest to seeing a Shaker production in eighth grade.

sic theory lessons. "I'm constantly busy, but when I look at it, everything I do I enjoy doing," Hill said.

Ideally she'd love to be on Broadway, but Hill hopes to attend Brown University to study medicine, with singing as a hobby.

Director Ned Galloway said that Hill shouldn't have any trouble with success, especially with her role in *Anything Goes*.

"She has a very talented and wonderful voice. As Sweeny, she will get to show audiences her vocal range, which will be exciting for her and for us," he said.

"The whole show revolves around Reno Sweeny and to be able to manage the role requires an enormous amount of maturity and energy. She really does it well," producer James Thornton said.

Hill said Thornton is a source

of confidence. "He definitely influences me. He is so supportive and inspiring," she said.

Hill's involvement in Shaker's theater department has greatly contributed to her strong belief about the importance of the musical arts. "There's just so much energy in the whole theater department that once you're there, you feel like you can do anything. It's a really strong combination," she said.

Movies

The Legend of Bagger Vance

Starring: Matt Damon, Will Smith, and Charlize Theron

The Legend of Bagger Vance is a flashback to Hollywood's golden era, proving that younger is not always better.

Rannulph Junuh (Damon), a golfer who's down on his luck during the depression, is convinced by his high school sweetheart, Adele Invergordon (Theron), to enter a golf tournament against the great 20's golfer Junuh wins with help from his mysterious caddy, Bagger Vance (Smith), who connects Junuh to the perfect swing and the game of life.

Damon and Smith's acting is superb, but the best reason to see this film is the magnificent cinematography and it's dramatic soundtrack. Both have movie goers leaving the theater in awe. A downside to this film is that it is slow in parts, but that is relieved by humor and amazing beauty on screen.

Robert Redford chose to direct this movie in a more out-dated way, but age proves to be the best teacher, and this movie emerges spectacularly.

Charlie's Angels

Starring: Drew Barrymore, Lucy Liu, and Cameron Diaz

Brawls, bombs and boobs: the three ingredients that guarantee success in movies. This same equation usually makes me want to run out of the theater screaming and lamenting the death of American film.

Finally, a welcome exception! Yay to *Charlie's Angels*, which uses all three blockbuster elements, but in a fun blend of action, humor and true grrrl power.

The plot isn't too dense, so you won't miss anything crucial if you leave to get popcorn. Essentially, the three Angels, Natalie (Diaz), Dylan (Barrymore) and Alex (Liu) try to recover stolen computer technology.

The movie revolves around its action scenes, where the Angels use their weapons with style. The action keeps coming, inserted between equally interesting, slower-paced scenes filled with humor, cool outfits and even dancing.

All and all, the mood is pretty light. The jokes won't have you on the ground laughing, but they serve as an interruption between blowing-up scenes and let's-bounce-around-and-be-cute scenes. But under the lip gloss and eye shadow, the angels are smart and talented, using their assets to finish the job. Somehow, the girls seem to own their giggles and hair twists making this remake a sure thing.

Anything Goes doesn't miss the boat

• After long months of preparation, the fall musical is a must see

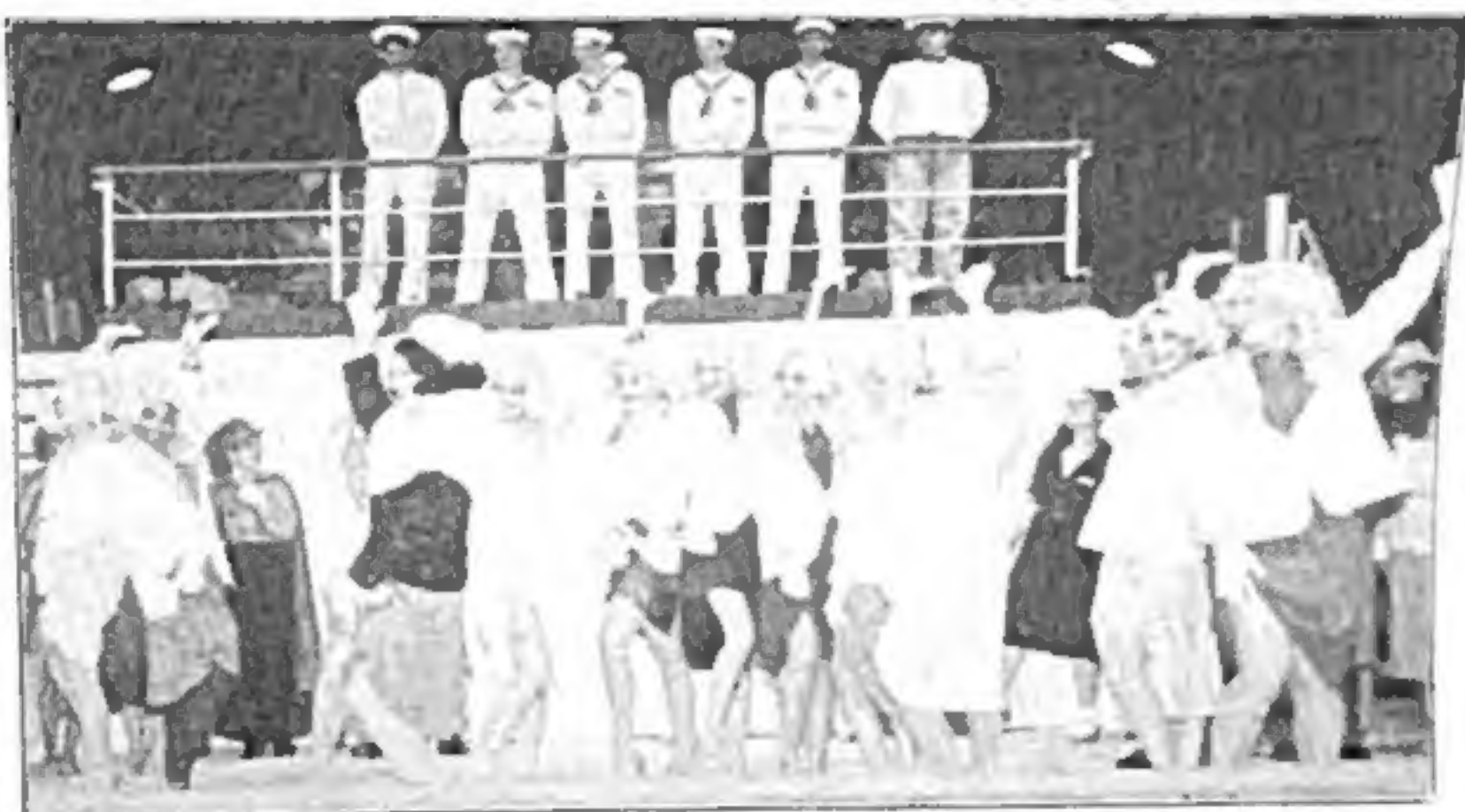
By Amy Broadbent
Staff Reporter

Their timing is perfect and the workouts are anything but easy. This group shouts loudly enough to scare any opponent and is more disciplined than any team in the school.

The three-hour practices are grueling and only the devoted survive. Although they lack shoulder pads, the colorful uniforms look sharp.

This past fall, the troupe has been planning and sacrificing for a showdown Dec. 30. No, this is not Shaker's basketball team ready to trounce the Heights Tigers. It is the cast of Cole Porter's *Anything Goes*, preparing for rehearsal.

Anything Goes is a tap dance musical about passengers on a cruise ship. Nightclub singer Reno Sweeny (Chloe Hill) and her beautiful platinum blond Angels are the talk of the ship. Billy Crocker (Austin Cameron), has sneaked on board the ship to see his debutante lover, Hope Harcourt (Abby Landreth) who is head over heels for Crocker. The gangster Moonface Martin (Andrew Kober) is hiding Crocker from the authorities. So basically,



Mary O'Connell/The Shakerite

The cast dances away during one of the many dress rehearsals in the final production week.

Hope is engaged but in love with Crocker, whom she met once in a taxi.

Dan Deming, a '99 Shaker graduate, is coming back to play Hope's fiancé, Sir Evelyn Oakleigh. Deming was asked to play Oakleigh to fill the role. Director Ned Galloway said current students play crucial roles, so he had to find another actor.

The cast rehearses everyday after school and during the week of production it is not unusual for them to be at school past 10 p.m.

The set for *Anything Goes* is an astonishing seven feet high. The set was built by the Stage Craft class, but because of its

size the class needed assistance from another set building group that met every Saturday for four hours. "It's supposed to be a boat," said Stephan O'Connell, a stage craft student.

Kelly Myers and her crew make and remake costumes for the entire cast. Only the sailor costumes are rented. They also take care of the Angels' wigs and teach the actresses the 1930s hairstyles.

The orchestra is an integral part of the musical, placed on top of the boat on stage, in costume.

Anything Goes is showing on Dec. 1 and 2 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for students and \$8 for adults. Call 295-4287 for tickets.



Jennifer Broadbent

Out of Four



Allison Wathe

Out of Four

abc.com: Get the news while playing America's favorite game show "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire!"

forwardgarden.com: Find the forwards for ANY occasion, you can choose out of 5,614 forwards to annoy your family and friends

with uproar.com: GAMES! GAMES! GAMES! 'nuff said. snoopy.com: Celebrate Peanuts 50th anniversary, and check

out some of the great comics you thought you threw out with yesterday's paper. number2.com: Please do yourself a favor and get free assistance

for your SATs and PSATs, who says a better score costs

anything? Simon.com: Solve your shopping dilemmas and visit this discount shopping website in time for the holidays. top3.net/LYRICS/.com: Visit this site to find out the words to your favorite songs so you can sing along.

Want to submit a website you've found and loved, or is really helpful? Submit your websites to Ms. Sekicky's mailbox in the office! Please put your name, the website address, and a brief description. Remember, The Shaker Heights High School network is controlled by a firewall, so please only submit things that would be acceptable. Thank you!



Websites

Check out Shaker's most useful and most fun picks

Winter sports ready for action

MEN'S BASKETBALL

LAST YEAR'S RECORD:
14-8

HEAD COACH:
BOB WONSON

PLAYERS TO WATCH FOR:
SEKOU LEWIS, EMEKA MBANEFO, JAMESON EVANS, NOAH WILLIAMS, TERENCE PARHAM

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

LAST YEAR'S RECORD:
17-6

HEAD COACH:
SUSAN BROWN

PLAYERS TO WATCH FOR:
CARYN WEINGART, CLAIRE DIETRICH, LYNNE HOPPE, KATIE WAMSLEY, LIZZIE BURNS

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

LAST YEAR'S RECORD:
9-0

HEAD COACH:
ERNEST WELSCH

PLAYERS TO WATCH FOR:
ASHLI PACE, INSHIRAH GRIMES, LORI BROOKS, TRACY JACOBS

MEN'S SWIMMING

LAST YEAR'S RECORD:
9-0

HEAD COACH:
ERNEST WELSCH

PLAYERS TO WATCH FOR:
CLEVELAND BROWN, J.R. SIEGEL, CHRIS RYDER, MATT SCHEIMAN

MEN'S HOCKEY

LAST YEAR'S RECORD:
22-7-1

HEAD COACH:
MIKE BARTLEY

PLAYERS TO WATCH FOR:
CARSON STRANG, MATT WALLACE, DAN KOLETSKY, JOHN DINGLE, MATT FAULKNER

DIVING

LAST YEAR'S RECORD:
9-0

HEAD COACH:
ERNEST WELSH

PLAYERS TO WATCH FOR:
ASHLEY DAVIES, KELLY MURPHY, LINDSAY GRAHAM

WRESTLING

LAST YEAR'S RECORD:
3-5

HEAD COACH:
CHARLIE MORGAN

PLAYERS TO WATCH FOR:
LAMAR MILLER, AKRAM ELTINAY, BRANDON KEE, BRANDON PROCTOR



Hockey players take the ice at Thornton Park for practice. The Raiders' first game of the season is tomorrow night at 9 p.m. against the St. Ignace Wildcats.



Justin Priest attempts a double leg take down on Akram Eltinay during wrestling practice.



Ashli Pace practices her crossover in pre-season practice.

By Marianne Cronin and
Eric Edelsberg
Sports Co-editors

As the holidays rapidly approach, we are reminded of gifts, too much food... and Friday night games. With seven winter sports come seven exceptional coaches and seven exceptional teams waiting for seasonal action.

Come on down to Woodbury pool, there you'll find some of the fastest swimmers in the state, one of the most winning coaches in Shaker history and lots of boys in Speedos. You won't be disappointed.

The women's swim team is not only hoping to repeat their undefeated 1999-2000 season, but are looking to send the majority of the team to states. Will they shave their heads too?

At the other end of the pool, something catches your eye. Hey, were those kids in *The Matrix*? No, it's the diving team, twisting themselves into uncomfortable positions as they fly through the air. Unlike Keanu, this team, with five new divers, is hoping for a trip to states.

Meanwhile, at Thornton Park, the men's hockey team is lacing up their Bauers in anticipation for their home opener tomorrow night. Be there and you'll see big hits, hear all the best Shaker cheers and find out which unsuspecting freshman is throwing it down post-game.

On the mat, the wrestling team proves that only real men wear singlets. Headed by their new coach Charlie Morgan, the Raiders are working harder than ever, and are anticipating a season of success.

The men's basketball team is ready for action tonight against Garfield Heights, Dec. 1. Although the game will not be at home, you can still support the Raiders. Go ahead, pack some "Go Shaker" signs and have some fun. Since there's not a hockey game tonight all of the white kids have no excuse not to go.

Last but not least, the women's basketball team has their first home game on Dec. ninth. The lady Raiders are anticipating a successful season, because rumor has it that Tracy Jacobs has perfected her game and can now slam dunk. Come check it out for yourself.

FANS

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"I think fan attendance would help a lot because it is all about school pride, and when more people show up to your games you're not only playing for yourself, you are playing for the school," she said.

But to what extent fan attendance affects athletic performance depends on the individual sport and athlete.

"The fans' effect on the game depends on the type of sport," said Dave Udeff, a clinical psychologist with a specialty in sports psychology. "With sports like football or hockey, where there is a lot of contact and aggression, you want the adrenaline pumping, and a packed house can really get players ex-

cited. On the other hand, I believe that in sports like golf that require extreme focus, fans might detract from the alertness of the player. Either way, I think that support from the school and spectators is very important to keep kids motivated."

However, for many athletes, support from fans is not the primary concern.

"I think fans help a lot, but that's not why I play and I don't think that's why most kids play. I want to improve myself and I love to compete. I don't play for other people," Holloway said.

Some athletes feel Shaker could increase fan attendance by expanding publicity.

"I think that the school could do a lot to publicize sports," said junior Lauren Gibbons, a varsity tennis player. "Lots of sports don't give announcements for all their

"I think fans help a lot, but that's not why I play and I don't think that's why most kids play. I want to improve myself and I love to compete."

NICOLE HOLLOWAY
junior

matches, and I think it would help to increase fans."

Senior Syed Ali, a member of the varsity ice hockey team, knows the importance of an excited crowd.

"It's really encouraging to play a sport where you get a large turnout for games," he said. "It gets you really pumped up and picks you up when the team is down. I love when the crowd really gets into it."

TENNIS

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Falls in the third round," Swary said. "We ended up placing third at districts."

Since the top six teams from the district tournament qualify for states, Gibbons and Swary were in the clear and ready for action.

While this was Gibbons' first state match, Swary also qualified in 1998 with '99 graduate Kim Lyons. Although the two had a strong outing, they lost to Upper Arlington in the

"We were really just two singles players."

LAUREN GIBBONS
junior



Liz Swary practices for states.

first round.

Gibbons and Swary followed suit by playing Centerville in the first round and losing in three sets. Their final doubles record was 8-2.

The awesome duo attributes much of its success to the help of coach Allan Slawson.

"Slawson saw the ability in us that we didn't see," Gibbons said. "He pushed us all season and gave us a lot of support."

Morgan brings new attitude to wrestling

By Kirsten Whitehouse
Staff Reporter

"Champions Train. Losers Complain. Shaker wrestling wants you!"

As winter sports season approached, it was hard to navigate the halls without noticing the intriguing posters promoting Shaker wrestling.

The grapplers, formerly coached by Hank Komblut, will welcome to the helm science teacher and former wrestler Charlie Morgan, who served as assistant coach for three years before stepping in for Komblut.

Wrestling seems to run in the family for Morgan, whose father and two brothers share his love of the sport.

Morgan wrestled at his high school in Detroit, where he succeeded as state runner up and two-time all-state wrestler. His high school record was 144-27, and he wrestled between 103-112 pounds. Morgan pinned down a wrestling scholarship to Division I Morgan State University in Baltimore. Morgan wrestled at 118-134 pounds for the Bears.

After college he coached wrestling at Worthington and Independence high schools, both near Columbus, and became a science teacher at Shaker in 1997.

He brings a solid coaching foundation to Shaker.

"My style is based on funda-



Robbie Mark/The Shakerite

Head coach and biology teacher Charlie Morgan prepares to wrestle freshman Raymond Daley in practice. Morgan is anticipating a successful season, due to the extensive conditioning that the team has been participating in. Morgan has also mandated an emphasis on academics by making a study table for the team each day before practice.

mental skills, the majority focus is on basic skills," Morgan said. "Basic skills overcome talent, and conditioning will help succeed over someone who has talent."

Returning senior and captain, Brandon Kee has noticed Morgan's impact.

"We work harder. There is more conditioning. Mr. Morgan is focused on the team and also

has a lot of interest with our academics," Kee said.

Players will be provided with a study table everyday after school from 3-5 p.m. before practices to enforce this academic policy.

Morgan said that academics are key to a triumphant team.

"Academics need to go up because standards reflect the intensity and determination of the

players," Morgan said.

Wrestlers feel Morgan is a asset to the team this season compared to previous years.

"Mr. Morgan is more organized. He knows what he wants to do. He put together an off-season to make sure we are prepared-year-round," said returning junior Justin Priest. "He makes it more appealing. He's like a friend, not

just a coach. You can talk to him about anything."

"Coach Morgan is a great coach. The intensity is higher. Last year we didn't have off-season, and everything is just more of a challenge [this year]," senior Brandon Proctor said.

"It's not very popular," Morgan said of the heightened effort. "But it's all about the toughness. With other teams it's easy to depend on other people, but with wrestling it's all you."

Morgan's belief in individual initiative was evident in another flyer he posted around school. "I am a wrestler. I don't need a headline. I don't need a cereal box. I don't need a crowd. I am a wrestler."

He added that the poster campaign was designed to increase awareness of the wrestling program throughout the school.

"The signs are up so that people begin to watch and support the wrestling team, because they don't have as many fans as other Shaker sports," Morgan said.

Morgan's wrestlers are believers.

"He's an asset to the team. If he continues to coach, we're really going to make it somewhere," said Priest with a hint of excitement.

"This has been a dream of mine," said Morgan, "and I can't wait."

Ruzic, Grimes are Raiders of the Month

• Ruzic helped lead the soccer team to an LEL title this season



Matt Ruzic is throwing the ball in. Ruzic, even though only a sophomore, helped lead the Raiders' to a very successful season and co-champs of the LEL. The team got knocked off in the playoffs by Cleveland Heights.

File photo/The Shakerite

Name: Matt Ruzic

Year: Sophomore

Position: Midfield

Future Goals: "I want to make All-Ohio by the time I'm a senior, and be all city first team."

Teammate's Comment:

"He really helped the team because of his hard work and desire to win." Steve Wilson, senior

Biggest Accomplishment: Winning the LEL this season

Marianne Cronin

• Inshirah Grimes sparked the Lady Raiders' volleyball team



Inshirah Grimes poses for the camera in her basketball uniform. Grimes is a standout in three varsity sports, and is all LEL in track. She helped propel the volleyball team to a successful season, unfortunately losing in the district round.

Mary O'Connell/The Shakerite

Name: Inshirah Grimes

Year: Junior

Sport: Volleyball

Future Goals: Wants to play college basketball for USC, Duke or Purdue

Teammate's Comment: "Inshirah works so hard and she makes key plays in crucial situations." Nicole Holloway, junior

Coach's Comment: "She's enthusiastic, and always looking to get better." Coach Steve Scherlacher

Steve Kowalski

HAZING

• from page 16

events.

Kinkopf is now enrolled in a private boarding school and hopes to play women's collegiate hockey at an Ivy League school.

According to senior captain Zac Cooper, the soccer team's welcoming rituals include a wake-up and dousing in eggs, syrup, shaving cream and sardines. This awakening is followed by additional drenching and then a team breakfast.

"I don't see a problem with it, because we call all the parents and the cops first," Cooper said.

Junior Carolyn Cole, a varsity field hockey member, had a similar experience happen to her earlier this fall.

"It was a lot of fun though, it

is not like they were torturing us. It is just a part of tradition."

Other teams' hazing rituals include throwing new players in the shower, hitting tennis balls at each other, play wrestling and paddling kids.

According to a survey of one hundred students at the school, 77 percent admit that hazing goes on within all sports at the high school. Students surveyed also agree that athletes would not refuse the orders of an upperclassman, for fear that they would be excluded.

However, some coaches disagree.

"I don't think it happens with every sport in this high school; it is only some sports," Brown said.

In recent Shaker history, there have been no serious injuries resulting from hazing activities.

The TOP 10 Reasons to watch Shaker winter sports

10. Hear the sweet swish of Tracy J's jumper
9. Watch grown men cry as Paco Proctor destroys all competition in his weight class
8. See Shawn Brakey prove that white boys really can jump
7. Watch the Prepper's shake in their Dockers as they anticipate another humiliating defeat by Shaker Hockey Dec. 8.
6. Because Craps is not going to be a varsity sport anytime soon.
5. Did you know blood and vomit bounce on ice?
4. Take a mini-vacation at the tropical Woodbury pool, and while you're there, watch Caryn and the women's swim team kick some ass.
3. The saga continues. . . will Matt Sheiman ever wash his hair?
2. This is Shaker. Is there anything else to do? And the number one reason to go see Shaker winter sports is . . .
1. Singlets and Speedos, oh my!



SPORTS

Hoop it up!

Are you ready for Shaker winter sports action? **14**



By Jenny Heisler
Co-editor in chief

A little too much football

It was a Sunday morning in late October. I had just returned from bell-choir practice, had a little breakfast, sat down at my kitchen counter and turned on my TV.

I was waiting for the *High School Sports Insider* to come on, scheduled for 11 a.m. Being so late in the fall, I was expecting to see coverage of an array of fall sports in the midst of play-off pandemonium.

However, much to my extreme disappointment, this *Sports Insider* decided to devote a full 25 minutes (out of a mere 30) solely to football. This team beat that team, football plays of the week, a special on the cheerleaders who cheer only for the football teams, blah, blah, blah, football, football, football. Needless to say, I pressed the power button on my remote quicker than you can say football.

Don't get me wrong. I enjoy watching the sport, I attend the games, know who the best teams are and follow key players. But when I hear of a program called the *High School Sports Insider*, I get the impression that I will see coverage of all high school sports. A fall sports insider should have included golf, volleyball, women's tennis, field hockey, cross country and soccer.

I will give them some credit — the first segment was a feature on a standout senior tennis player. And later in the program something like "The Health Fact of the Week" elaborated on the importance of mouthguards (don't they wear these in, ahem, football?). But beyond that, reporting on other sports was virtually nada.

It wouldn't make me so upset if they called their program the "football insider," but they don't. And that name will not change; they don't want to lose viewers. I mean, they already lost one...

I understand that a station's goal is to get as many viewers as possible, and football undoubtedly draws the most fans. Even this newspaper is guilty as last month over half of the photos in the sports section were of football players. But running this *High School Sports Insider* with its current title seems flat out wrong. Until they decide to look beyond helmets and goal posts, you won't find me tuning in again.

Hazing still a part of Shaker sports

By Eric Edelsberg
Sports co-editor

As each new sports season rolls around, fans are fired up, coaches are ready and some athletes are afraid.

Most sports teams have some way of welcoming new players to their team. Usually the older players or captains of the team will subject new players to ritualistic treatment to make them a true part of the team.

Some people feel these ceremonies are simply a fun tradition while others refer to them as examples of hazing. But however they are dubbed, these events have the potential of getting out of control and causing injury.

"I consider a one-time offense a problem and hazing needs to stop altogether in this school," said Susan Brown, head women's basketball coach and athletic director.

However, many students disagree.

"It has been a part of tradition and it always will be," junior football player Jay Gladden said.

Senior cross-country runner Allison Weaver agreed.

"I really don't think hazing is a problem at the high school," she said.

The question is where to draw the line.

One of Shaker's most controversial hazing incidents occurred last year, when then sophomore, Abra Kinkopf, made the men's ice hockey team. The rest of the team was accused of extensive hazing, which included name calling and exclusion from team



Photo Illustration: Mary O'Connell/The Shakerite

SEE HAZING, PAGE 15

The magnificent seven



Jason Sudemore/The Shakerite

Emeka Mbenelo and Tristan Taylor go one-on-one at basketball practice. For the low down on men's basketball and the six other winter sports teams, check out the preview on page 14.

Where's the love, Shaker?

• Athletes are accustomed to showcasing talent to empty seats

By Matt Wallace
Staff Reporter

If you have attended a Shaker Heights sporting event recently you may have noticed something: you were the only one there.

Aside from football, men's basketball and ice hockey, attendance at Shaker athletic events is almost non-existent.

Yet even at these so-called popular sports, spectator attendance does not come close to the amount of fans that other schools draw. Very often the number of kids participating in the sport surpasses the number in attendance.

The low number of fans that attend wrestling matches has inspired new varsity wrestling coach Charlie Morgan to put up motivational flyers around the school.

To increase fan attendance, the women's basketball team has decided to offer free food at home games if a fan sinks a half-court shot during half-time.

Athletes agree that the presence of fans at a game can have a large effect on a player's mental readiness.

"I play better when fans come and watch the team," said junior Nicole Holloway, a varsity basketball and volleyball player. "They get us pumped up and it increases your intensity."

Athletic director and head women's basketball coach, Susan Brown, agrees.



Photo Illustration: Mary O'Connell/The Shakerite

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David Meyers/The Shakerite

Junior Lauren Gibbons prepares for a match. She later joined Swary at doubles.

Gibbons, Swary just miss state tennis title

By Marianne Cronin
Sports Co-editor

Doubles partners Lauren Gibbons and Liz Swary qualified for Division I state tournament play during the 2000 tennis season.

Gibbons, a junior, and Swary, a senior, played separately throughout the season as number one and number two singles. Gibbons collected a strong singles record of 23-7, while Swary had an equally impressive record of 20-9. The tenacious twosome joined forces in late September to compete in sectional finals.

"We didn't compete together much during the season," Gibbons said. "We were really just two singles players, and we did the best we could."

In the sectional finals, Gibbons and Swary defeated Shaker's number two doubles team, seniors Sarah Morgenstern and Tracy Williams.

"Liz and Lauren absolutely dominated sectionals," Morgenstern said. "It was amazing to play with them every day because it gave me and Tracy the opportunity to play with two of the best players in the state."

At districts, Gibbons and Swary defeated Bordman High School in the first round, and then lost to Canfield.

"After our loss to Canfield, we came back and beat Cuyahoga

SEE TENNIS, PAGE 14